

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

January 12, 2020

12:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting



MINUTES

Attendance

	Voting Members	Ex Officio	Staff
P Aaron Kohn	Allison Glenn		P Shelli Kerr
	P Lauren Haynes	P Kalene Griffith (VB)	P David Wright
P Jerris Palmer	P Steven Baker		P Danielle Semsrott
P Tom Hoehn			P Josh Stacey

Guests: Hadi Dudley, Library Director and Ziba Rajabi, artist

1. Call Meeting to Order. Chairperson Tom Hoehn called the meeting to order at 12:01.

2. Minutes from September 8 meeting. Tom asked for approval of the minutes.

Steven made a motion to approve the December 2020 minutes. Aaron seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed 5-0.

PROPOSALS

3. Library Artwork. Hadi Dudley, Bentonville Public Library Director, presented the artwork associated with the library expansion study. As part of the public engagement process, they developed a public art component to engage citizens in a collaborative art piece. 80 art kits were distributed to all ages and abilities. Artist Ziba Rajabi described how she compiled the artwork received into an art book and then cut strips from the original pieces to weave them together into the shape of the Bentonville city limits. The artwork will be installed above the fireplace in the library.

Lauren made a motion to approve the library artwork. Jerris seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed 5-0.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

4. Consensus on Master Plan process. Aaron shared an outline for proceeding with the Public Art Master Plan that identified discussion topics for each PAAC meeting through June. He also discussed a possible need for establishing a gift policy. The goal is to end up with a five-year strategic plan.

January 12	Master Plan Core Principles, Goals and Audience
February 9	Benchmarks and programming
March 9	Feedback and collaborations
April 13	Documents review, sharing with stakeholders
May 11	Finalized plan
June 8	Submit budget recommendation for 2022

Lauren asked about the adoption process. Shelli indicated that the last public art plan had not been officially presented and adopted by City Council, but that she will bring it through that process if the committee chooses to do so.

5. Consensus on principles and goals for Public Art Master Plan. Tom presented a revised draft of the plan prepared in 2016. Regarding the core principles, Lauren asked if they are aspirational or actually what will be done. Shelli described when they were originally discussed, the intent was that these would be the

guidelines used when artwork was proposed. Several pointed out that a proposal may not meet all four principles. These are the additional comments and discussions around the core principles:

- Should the goals be measurable or maybe the strategies?
- Do these goals meet the principles?
- Possible change to first one with "visual" to "creative." The committee wanted to keep "visual."
- Is "foster" the right word for the diversity, equity and inclusion principle?
- Place diversity, equity and inclusion principle at the top.
- Regarding expanding public knowledge, consider: "level the playing field for arts accessibility." Maybe something more along the lines of expand access to the visual arts to get people excited and energized about public art.

Tom and Aaron will wordsmith the principles based on these comments and send out for review via email prior to the next meeting.

Some members indicated maybe the goals and strategies overlap too much. Maybe only one is needed. Or even combining the goals and the core principles.

- 6. Review Developer's Art Kit.** Due to time limitations, Tom introduced the kit and suggested continued discussion in the future on how to get developers to choose public art as one of their site amenities.

PROJECT UPDATES

- 7. Guide, These My Hands.** Shelli said that the artists are in the fabrication stage. She will reach out before the next meeting to see how it is coming along and when they anticipate installation.
- 8. Almost Forgotten Osage Prairie.** Danielle reported that the artwork has been installed and that an unveiling will take place in the spring when the plants have had an opportunity to grow and bloom.

OTHER

9. Other business.

- Shelli reported that Tim is no longer the representative from City Council. The Mayor will be appointing one of the new members, Holly Hook or Gayatri Agnew, to the committee.
- Shelli noted that a new member is being appointed at City Council tonight, Grant Cottrell. Tom asked about the selection process. Shelli stated that the Mayor is working on establishing a new process for committee appointments and that staff is following the draft of that policy. The committee suggested that someone from the committee should be involved in the selection process.
- Kalene provided an update on the public art map that will be printed as a booklet. Jerris asked if there was any specific category of nighttime artwork, those that are lighted. Kalene said they do have neon highlighted, but haven't created a separate nighttime category.
- David provided a timeline on the promenade construction. He anticipates approximately 14 months for design and then a year for construction. They are working around several developments taking place in the immediate area. He believes some construction could begin by fall 2022 but likely 2023 when most activity will start. Aaron wants to ensure that art stays part of the discussion as these projects move forward.

10. Adjournment.

Tom made a motion to adjourn, Aaron seconded. Motion approved, 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.