

**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
OMAHA, NE
MEETING MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 4:00pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 4:00pm

Present: (LF) Larry Ferguson, (RC) Robert Carlson, (KE) Kristina Engler, (SR) Sara Rogers, (KC) Karin Campbell, (KP) Kristin Pluhacek, (HB) Holly Barrett, (EL) Emily Longe, (MM) Mike Markey

Absent:(PS) Pat Slaven, Park Planner II

Staff Present: (JB) Jill Burgin, Special Projects Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by LF.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes approved (HB) moved, (EL) seconded.

PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

New Business

- 1) Benson First Friday
 - a) Commissioners suggested having the face portrait option for the banner artists OPTIONAL and not mandatory.
 - b) The banner project will consist of 16 new art banners. Each artist must make 2 copies (show both directions)
 - c) The art banners are planned to be done in August and will be up for four (4) months.
 - d) After the four (4) months, Maggie Weber suggests giving one (1) back to the artist and (1) auctioned off (per artist agreement), with the proceeds going back to Benson First Friday.
 - e) Commissioners suggest making the auction option clear from the beginning with the artists so they have a chance to turn the opportunity down earlier rather than later.
 - f) (LF) suggested having a BID & PAC member on the Benson First Friday committee to answer questions and concerns to save time and efforts. (KC) spoke with Maggie after the PAC meeting and helped give a better perspective on the topic and offered to be her OPAC liaison.
 - g) Commission unanimously voted permission to move forward with jury selection.

2) Morton Meadows-mural

- a) Maggie Weber's "Morton Meadows" mural was voted unanimously by the PAC to be added onto the website.
- b) Address needed from Maggie Weber to include online.

3) ONE Omaha

- a) Julie Smith from ONE Omaha came to find out what additional changes she needs to make to the current Street Mural Policy.
- b) The Commissioners advised making Primer a must to all murals and having a list of preferred and specific paint options such as 'Montana Spray Paint'.
- c) Also, list paints that are NOT allowed
- d) The NE Arts Council would be a great resource for referring artists for murals, as well as asking about tool kits for community groups.
- e) The PAC unanimously voted permission to move forward with the street mural policy.

4) Cassils: Resilience

- a) Alex has decided to do one continuous route showing the journey to overcome past violence.
- b) Alex will need to organize one armed officer and one undercover officer with Mary Neuman with OPD.
- c) (LF) pointed out that before next month, Alex will need to organize efforts with Traffic Control, Public Works (parade permit) w/ Mike Gaughn, Land Marks Commission, & get the Old Market Merchant final approval.
- d) Media Coverage details will need to be made.
- e) If these steps are not complete before April's meeting, unfortunately the project will not be approved in time for Alex's performance deadline.

5) Wo!Ven

- a) Mary Zicafoose received a unanimous vote from the PAC to proceed with the unweaving, repainting, and auto clear coat of the O!
- b) The base of the O! is to remain as is with NO paint.
- c) (LF) gave Mary the contact information for the Dodge Street Pedestrian Bridge so she can collaborate with them about a preferred color.
- d) It was suggested that since the art piece has not been touched in 10 years that it be treated as a brand new piece and possibly rename the piece to "ReWo!ven".
- e) The weaving process will be done in Fall when Mary has enough time to raise funds and volunteers.

6) Public Art Plaque Order

- a) (RC) will contact J.P. Cooke for price quotes on plaques similar to the 'Take a Seat' project and the 'Praxis' plaque to present at next month's meeting for a final vote.
- b) Instead of the Public Art logo, (LF) would like "publicartomaha.org" added onto the bottom of the plaques.

- 7) 'The Union for Contemporary Art's Neighborhood Arts Program'
 - a) 'It Takes a Village' by Betni Kalk and 'In Loving Memory of Ty and Terri Schenzel' by Maggie Weber need to be voted on by the PAC to be included on the website.
- 8) Prairie Sun/ Moon
 - a) Need Plaques ASAP

RESTORATION PROJECTS

- 1) Vanishing Point
 - a) Needs repainted
- 2) (LF) will be sending out photos to the commissioners of the art pieces that need to be repaired.
- 3) Pencil
 - a) The Mac Hornecker piece needs to be repainted. Hornecker said that Park Maintenance can repaint the piece with "any" shade of gray, if they so choose.
- 4) Gene Leahy Mall Sculptures and "Take a Seat" Benches
 - a) The meeting with LF, HB, PS, and Brian Hartley from Park is postponed until spring, due to weather. The meeting entails walking through the Mall and determining new locations for benches "Aha", "Goldenrod" and "Rebar", as well and moving "Shadowbox" and revisiting the "Mangonel" base drainage issue.
- 5) Wovlen
 - a) (PS) contacted Mary Zicafoose about helping to provide labor for repairing the piece and Adrian Duran, UNO Art Faculty/Senior Theory & Art Practices Professor is going to have his senior class of art majors help renovate the piece.
 - b) Adrian will work with the class on the redesign. The list of materials and estimated budget will be submitted to the city for approval in March.
 - c) Cost will include professional repainting, car coating, and all new ropes and ties of a more permanent nature.
 - d) The class planning sessions are scheduled for Feb. 1st, March 8th, with de-installation on April 12th. The new installation will be on April 19-22nd.
- 6) Frankie's Pain
 - a) (HB) suggested that the plexi-glass be updated due to scratches, discoloration, and age.
 - b) Tim Zweiback will need to be contacted about the repairs.
- 7) Rebar
 - a) (PS) contacted Randy Brown for details regarding safety for the piece and he stated it was up to the City or PAC, "he does not care".

- b) A decision will need to be made on whether the piece should be repaired, moved, or eliminated in the spring.
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PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE UPDATES

- 1) **Website(s)** – Website uploaders are having a busy month and have not been able to upload the changes below.
- a) Three blank submissions created by KP need to be removed.
 - b) Morton Meadows- Picture needed from Maggie Weber for final approval to upload on website
 - c) Kent Bellows will be added by (KE)
 - d) Vinton St. Project's Omaha World Herald article uploaded
 - e) (LF) needs to send the picture of "Arches" to (SR)
 - f) (SR) needs panoramic picture of the Dundee Subway.

Search Engine Requirements

(SR) will ask Zack about relaxing the search requirements (i.e. lower case letters, shortened name search, and punctuation marks) for the website and making sure the website is mobile friendly. Many of the commissioners were having difficulties searching art pieces at the meeting.

Location Titles

- I. (SR) suggested adding the following locations to the website:
- a. Elmwood
 - b. South Omaha
 - c. Benson
 - d. Aksarben
 - e. UNO Scott Campus
 - f. Midtown Crossing
 - g. N.W. Omaha
 - h. West Central Omaha
 - i. South West Omaha
 - j. Dundee/Memorial Park
 - k. Quest Center/Hilton

Website Map

- II. Commissioners need to decide on preferred city boundaries based on "clusters" of artwork.
- III. It was suggested that a group get together with a map to draw out the preferred boundaries to present at next month's meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 1) “.com”
 - a) Next meeting the PAC will make decision on the new policy regarding “.com” on art work.
 - b) Ask Julie Riley on thoughts for this policy

- 2) Public Art Tours
 - a) (HB) would like to coordinate a Public Art Tour this spring and summer to tour the metro area’s artwork. This tour would be divided between all of the PAC.

ADJOURN