

MINUTES

Public Art Committee Meeting
November 30, 2012

Members present: Tim Smith, Ellen Tykeson, Chair; Joe Moore, Joe Valessek.
Staff present: Isaac Marquez, Renee Grube, Nan Laurence, Karm Hagedorn.
Guests: Lindsay Rice, Hugh Prichard

Committee Roles

Isaac reminded members the Committee Chair seat is a two-year term and Ellen's term as Chair is ending. Isaac will be looking for someone to take on the role of Chair but Ellen will continue to serve on the committee.

Public Art Review and Discussion

Temporary Art

This was the third year of the *Park Your Art* contest. Courtney Stubert from Copic Marker & the Wave Gallery and his team got involved with project this year, allowing us to reach a broader audience resulting in higher quality submissions. The winning artist was from Kansas and the art was tied to the Library's summer reading theme of "dream." All of the banners are being stored by Parking Services to one day be brought out together.

A new pilot project for temporary art was started this summer. Joe Moore committed personal time, advising students, taking photos, attending all events, and creating QR codes. Projects included the Pick-up Sticks near the federal courthouse; Pink Electrical Boxes at traffic signals around downtown; TV Screens at the Park Blocks with messaging about the impact of television; the Spatial Refractor consisting of large mirrors along the top of the wall in Kesey square and Barrel of Monkeys with a wine barrel and five monkeys who appeared to have "escaped" from the barrel, installed on light poles seeming to be swinging down the street.

Isaac reported the time required to oversee the installations created a staffing issue. Each project took almost as much time as one we would commission for 30 years. In the future, avoiding projects that require cranes, building permits, etc. would simplify the process. Committee members felt it was a valuable experience, especially for students just getting started, and it met goals of the Public Art Plan. Nan said the value is raising community expectations so the public anticipates what might happen from year to year. She hopes we can have something happen every year and suggested concentrating it to one corridor in town each year. Isaac proposed having a more focused discussion in January.

13th & Alder – Great Blue Heron

Installation of the Great Blue Heron at 13th & Alder coincided with Eugene's 150th Birthday event. Public Works paid for design and fabrication of the platform for the art but were not able to provide lighting. Local artist Jud Turner created the winning design. Staff worked with the UO and Duck Store to raise money for the project and helped Jud whenever possible. Cultural Services donated use of a trailer for transporting the sculpture, Public Works donated the use of a crane for installation, and OBEC Engineering donated engineering services for design. The next step is a dialogue with traffic engineering to propose lighting. Addition of this art was directly related to feedback Public Works received when reaching out to business district prior to street improvements.

Eugene Police Department

A national search was conducted and local artists Ellen Tykeson and John Rose were chosen to design art for the new Police facility on Country Club Road. Artists were given the entire site wall to work with which provides the most impact. Nan asked for feedback on the process from Ellen. She said both her

and John were pleased and it is much improved since the time the Delta Ponds project took place. Isaac commented that we've learned a lot since the Delta Ponds project.

Isaac stated that 1% for Art equaled to \$167K being generated from the Police building; \$100K was used and the remainder is banked for future projects.

(sub)Urban Projections

This was the second year of (sub)Urban projections; staff worked with students who stepped forward to oversee this year's event. We had the opportunity to do this again because of ABAE's profile on the previous (sub)Urban projections festival; from that Kendall Auto Group approached the City and came forward with matching funds for the project. Attendance was good and over 19 people were employed to make the project happen.

Survival Skills for Arts

One class has already taken place and a second class launches in January. We are interested in bringing it to a downtown location to open it up for more artists (non-credit course).

Municipal Court Lobby

An opportunity is coming up at the new Municipal Court lobby in the Roberts Building located at 13th & Lincoln. There is space for two-dimensional art and new lighting. Isaac said that environmental control is a concern; we don't have the same control that a museum has. Hugh questioned visibility – how often will the public be in this building? Isaac said that he would like to continue the discussion at a future time and figure out how to assist Municipal Court.

Maintenance

The Andrew Vincent Mural at City Hall was recommended for preservation. Maintenance was recently performed on the Eugene Skinner and Four Seasons sculptures.

Council Work Session in September

A Public Art Update was presented to City Council in September. The Council was receptive and complimentary of the public art program. Renee said we try to get to council periodically and update them on what's happening.

Public Art Goals 2012-2013

Review Public Art Work Plan

Isaac reported that we still need to establish educational material but we have seen significant work on building the public art collection and developing partnerships. There is still room for improvement in the area of combining art events with Summer in the City. Isaac believes the Committee should spend time and energy working on funding and finding resources this year.

Future Meeting Topics

Temporary Art Project
Municipal Court Lobby
Public Art Inventory (tentative)
Sustainable funding
I-5 Bridge Project

Meeting schedule and locations

Meetings will take place every two months; the next meeting will be in January.