

MINUTES

Public Art Committee Meeting
May 21, 2015

Present: Mike Penwell, Joe Moore, Justin Lamphear, Debbie Williamson-Smith, Betsy Wolfston, Jennifer Knapp Committee Members; Isaac Marquez, Colette Ramirez, Cultural Services staff.

Absent: Courtney Stubbert.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from April 16 were approved with corrections.

City Hall Update

Mike reported that he will be presenting at the June 10 City Council work session for an update only.

Community Events

Colette reported that since attending an events conference last fall, she has made it her goal to make Eugene an "event friendly" city. With that in mind, she is currently working on the following items:

- 1) Update the website;
- 2) Create one special event permit;
- 3) Provide better support for large scale events;
- 4) Improve customer service.

An intern from the University of Oregon is assisting Colette with this work.

Colette handed out EugFun passports which have been produced as a marketing tool to promote events sponsored by the City of Eugene. LRCS collaborates with Public Works and other community partners to create free, fun, participatory programs and events. Colette said the larger events with primarily take place downtown and a series of events will also rotate throughout parks around the city. There are a total of 48 events being coordinated throughout the summer. Colette highlighted some of the events:

- Fashion Show
- Sunday Streets
- Dodgeball
- Movies in the Square
- Plein Air Paint Out
- Fiesta Cultural
- Music in the Parks
- Pedal Power
- DJ Dance Party
- Party on the Plaza (Thursdays)
- Surprise & Delight Series

Colette notified the committee that Summer in the City has been rebranded to EugFun so events can take place all year long.

Mike asked if we are partnering with Oregon Contemporary Theatre. Colette responded that we are not this year and Isaac added that we have in the past.

New Committee Member Introduction

Jennifer Knapp who is an Urban Design Planner with the Planning and Development Department. Jennifer will be filling Nan Laurence's position on the committee. Jennifer provided an overview of the various planning projects she is working on including downtown streetscapes/great streets and Willamette Street to the Willamette River.

Public Art Update

Isaac reported that another digital art festival for is already being planned for 2016, noting that a debrief of the 2015 event will help our partners see where they want to fit into the 2016 festival. The hope is to add an education leg in order to attract tourists. One idea being proposed is to hold creative meet-ups, similar to "speed dating" for artists in order to encourage collaboration.

Isaac announced that the River House art piece by Hyland Mather is not moving forward due to insurance issues – by the time the issues were resolved, Hyland did not have time to create the piece. Debbie encouraged committee members to check out the mural at JSMA.

Isaac stated that he was recently part of a Public Art 101 course/presentation. He said that Florence and Springfield had people in attendance, noting that Florence just recently voted in their first ever public art committee.

Visioning

Isaac distributed a summary of the previous work done on visioning including three draft proposals and one model. He clarified that the goal is to create a short vision statement with principals/rules and possibly a visual statement. Committee members discussed the meaning of the proposed vision statements and their potential purpose.

Jennifer asked if there is typically public involvement when art is commissioned. Isaac explained that we have been in a recession so the percent for art has not been enacted because there has not been much new development. The Police building was the last project and prior to that it was the Eugene Public Library.

Betsy asked if we need a goal in the vision statement, noting that it feels like we are telling people what to do with the art.

Mike suggested the vision statement be something that helps Isaac do his job and also support the committee's work. Isaac said he believes it does support the work of the committee.

The committee agreed to make edits to the vision statement and guiding principles in order to finalize the vision, and to adopt the content with an opportunity for word-smithing at a later date.

Joe motioned to approve the edits to the vision statement; Debbie seconded the motion; the committee voted unanimously to approve the proposed edits.

The next step will be to finalize the principles. Isaac will send an email with the assignment to committee members as a homework assignment.