

MINUTES

Public Art Committee Meeting
December 13, 2016

Present: Joe Moore, Courtney Stubbert, Jennifer Knapp, Robin Selover, Mike Penwell, Committee Members; Isaac Marquez, Cultural Services Staff.

Absent: Debbie Williamson-Smith, Betsy Wolfston, Justin Lanphear, Committee Members; Tomi Douglas, Cultural Services Director.

Committee Membership

Isaac conveyed that Joe is long overdue to relinquish his chairmanship and Debbie has agreed to take on the role. Chairmanship of the committee is a two year position so it doesn't necessarily mean that a term ends when chairmanship ends.

Joe asked if there were any other members that had assigned duties. Isaac responded no. members discussed membership and responsibilities of members. Members asked Isaac what would help him get the work done. Isaac responded that additional staff is the desired solution to help him accomplish all of his work.

Jennifer suggested changing the meeting time and possibly creating subcommittees to help get the work accomplished.

Isaac said the committee structure needs to include members who can speak in the art world; it's important that we do not lose the voice of the artist. A committee filled with administrators would not be inclusive and representative of our community, nor would it meet the guidelines for committee membership.

Mike Penwell arrived at 3:47 p.m.

Robin agreed that it's important for the committee to be representative of the community but scheduling is an issue for her. She teaches and her schedule changes every three months. Robin stated she does not have control over her schedule and does not work downtown so it can be challenging for her to make it to meetings. Robin said a lunchtime meeting time is appealing to her.

Joe said he understood that not everyone has disposable time. Isaac suggested a quarterly meeting at dinner time with subcommittees that meet more frequently. Before doing so, Isaac would need to check the committee bylaws to make sure quarterly meetings would meet the meeting frequency requirements. It was agreed that this is the preferred schedule. Isaac and Brenda will research the bylaws to make sure this is acceptable.

Isaac announced that Mike has been an ad hoc voting city staff member for more than 20 years. Mike is resigning from the committee; Emily Proudfoot will be taking his place.

Public Art Committee Work Plan

Isaac handed out the vision and principles along with the draft 2017 committee work plan. Committee members discussed the draft work plan, specifically addressing how to keep public art alive.

Committee members agreed that the work plan should be more specific. Committee members felt the work plan seemed more like policies than work items. Courtney proposed items two and four be combined. Joe suggested evaluating each of the work plan items after administrative policies related to meeting frequency are addressed. Once the committee is re-set, we can get back to the work plan.

Robin announced that Lane Community College (LCC) has a new dean in the art department who is looking at ways to make the department more visible and draw more students. She said this seems to be an opportunity to connect with LCC students who, in many ways, are representative of the diversity in Eugene that we sometimes don't see in other places. Isaac asked if the department is wishing to be more visible on campus or off campus. Robin responded that there is talk about participating in First Friday Artwalks next year and showcasing student work at the LCC downtown center.

Courtney asked what LCC's art department needs. Robin said they need students – enrollment is very low so the department is struggling financially. Isaac pointed out there is a long history between LCC and public art. Isaac said he believes the LCC issue fits into the public art work plan. He asked committee members to review the five points in the work plan and help to determine if they are leading the committee's work in the right direction so he can refine them with more detail.

Committee members brainstormed about items on the draft work plan and offered the following suggestions to Isaac:

- Raise the profile of the committee and the art that is out there.
- Address the education piece – educating people about what is out there and what opportunities are out there.
- The committee should be more active in educating the community about what it is doing and engaging both artists and the public.
- Engage more directly to inform the public.
- Consolidate the five points into three.

Isaac said with new marketing team we have more ability to help support the committee's needs.

Isaac said he will incorporate today's work into the work plan and consolidate notes from previous discussions and keep moving forward.