

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

March 12, 2019

12:00 p.m.

Community Development Building



MINUTES

Attendees: Committee Members: Brittany Braithwaite, Steven Baker, Lauren Haynes,
Dylan Turk, and Jhonna Dexter
Ex-officio members: Shelli Kerr, Danielle Semsrott, and Lee Farmer
Guest: Dawn Obliskey

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Approval of February 2019 Minutes:** Dylan noted that he did not attend the last meeting as indicated on the minutes.
- 2. Sassy.** The committee heard from Mrs. Dawn Obliskey regarding Sassy, the art piece at the intersection of NW A Street and Tiger Blvd. Mrs. Obliskey is offended by the piece and feels that it is inappropriate. She is asking to relocate Sassy from its current location.

The committee discussed concerns about moving, the impact of relocation on public art generally and more specifically the reputation of the public art committee. Brittany feels that the piece is better viewed up close and a location where it is more easily accessible might be appropriate. Shelli mentioned that she has discussed with the Parks Department a possible option to relocate from the visible intersection to a location within Park Springs Park.

The committee is concerned about relocating it and still facing the same negative complaints, just at a different location. Other options were discussed, including promoting a narrative about the piece, seeing if Visit Bentonville would accept a return of the piece, or possible sale of the piece. A sale was deemed unfeasible because of the original cost to design and install. They discussed talking with the artist about modification. Since it has been in place for six months, it may not be appropriate to come back now and ask the artist to make a change.

The committee discussed the original design approved by the committee, parks and city council and that what was installed wasn't as presented. The committee agreed that they would not have approved what was installed.

The committee needs to know the cost associated with relocation before making a decision. Lee will find a cost estimate. Shelli will also check if Visit Bentonville, who paid for the piece, is interested in taking the piece back.

- 3. Water Tower Lighting.** The committee agreed that they preferred just lighting the tower but not using it as a canvas for art. Dylan made a motion that the PAAC will not be taking action on lighting the water tower and let the city determine how to achieve and manage lighting of the tower. Loren seconded the motion. All favor; the motion passed 5-0.

- 4. Memorial Park basketball court murals.** The committee likes the concept. They need a few more details before voting, including confirmation that there is no infringement on copyright with the Pac-man design; the final designs; and confirm that all plays lines will remain visible. Lee will work with Mike Abb to get the final designs to the committee for an email vote before going to City Council.

NEW BUSINESS

- 5. Proposals.** No new proposals have been submitted.
- 6. 2019 Project Ideas.** Brittany emailed the committee details of the temporary camera installation. It needs to be indoors and the artist would like to have it on display during the film festival. She would need a place for display of a video. The Community Development building was considered, but it does not have a good location for a screen or blank wall for the video display. Lee will check on possibly the Downtown Activity Center and Shelli will talk with Hadi Dudley at the library.

Johnetta proposed a project that had numerous wind chimes in a tree. Could be a temporary display along a trail.

The committee agreed to put this item at the top of the agenda for the April meeting with members bringing other ideas for discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.