

# Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

April 13, 2021

12:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting



## MINUTES

### Attendance

Voting Members		Ex Officio	Staff
P Aaron Kohn		P Gayatri Agnew	P Shelli Kerr
P Grant Cottrell	P Lauren Haynes	P Kalene Griffith (VB)	P David Wright
P Jerris Palmer	P Steven Baker		Danielle Semsrott
P Tom Hoehn			P Josh Stacey

Guest: Ali Worley, City of Bentonville Animal Shelter Manager

**1. Call Meeting to Order.** Chairperson Tom Hoehn called the meeting to order at 12:02.

**2. Minutes from March meeting.** Tom asked for approval of the minutes.

Tom made a motion to approve the March 2021 minutes. Aaron seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed 6-0.

### PROPOSALS

**3. None Received.**

### STRATEGIC PLANNING

**4. Master Plan.**

- Aaron will send out an updated master plan draft and the developer's kit for review before the May meeting.
- The committee discussed pulling together a theme of inclusion, local artists and focusing on a sense of place.
- David brought up that the Cricket Pitch Court at 28<sup>th</sup> Street Park is ready to start planning for artwork.
- They liked the idea of something iconic, like "You Belong Here" at The Momentary.
- Lauren cautioned about limiting it to local artists if we want diversity, may need to reach out beyond NWA.
- Consider partnerships with other organizations, such as Boys and Girls Club, Sunshine School, particularly as it relates to the youth and educating the public about art. Look at a project that is interactive.
- The Biking Art Tour was a good project, but required a fee and participation was limited. How do we do something like this and increase awareness of our public art?
- What is a good way to share the stories of the art we have in Bentonville?
- Grant suggested something similar to the pamphlets and websites setup for the Fort Smith Mural projects.
- Consider a partnership with the library for art-related books, readings and programs.

- Kalene reported that the booklet of all the public art will be published next month, but that the website has additional information, including bios and backstories on the projects. She is also making sure that our art is in the state database.

## PROJECT UPDATES

5. **Almost Forgotten Osage Prairie.** Josh provided a photo of the artwork and reported that landscaping has been installed.

## OTHER

6. **Resignations and Appointments.** Shelli report that Lauren had turned in her resignation. Members thanked Lauren for her service and insight on the committee. She will still be in Bentonville until July and is happy to help or answer questions until she moves. That leaves two open positions for which they have received six applications. Shelli, Tom and Josh are conducting interviews this week.
7. **Condition of Guide These, My Hands.** Tom shared photos of the artwork the day of installation and a few days ago. The material is fading and the wind is causing the ruffles to fray and get pushed behind the bars. The committee agreed that Tom and Shelli would reach out to the artists to discuss and get their feedback on how it can be improved to weather the outdoor environment.
8. **Social Media and Hashtag.** Grant suggested selecting a hashtag to identify our public art projects. The committee agreed on #BentonvillePublicArt. This can serves as a means of increasing awareness and activating art pieces. Consider adding it to signage, website, brochures and city newsletter.
9. **Idea.** Shelli suggested each month the committee highlight an artwork with information about the piece, when it was installed, why it was selected, the background and information about the artists. The committee liked the idea and Shelli said she would start working on it to post on social media.

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Tom summarized the action steps:

- a. Review the master plan information and develop ideas/ strategies for this year's funding of \$25,000.
- b. Tom and Shelli to reach out to Traci Rae Manos and Danielle Hatch about condition of Guide These, My Hands.
- c. Start promoting #BentonvillePublicArt.
- d. Shelli to work on plan for monthly artwork spotlight.

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## Adjournment.

Grant made a motion to adjourn, Aaron seconded. Motion approved, 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.