

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

March 10, 2020

12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, Community Development Building
305 SW A Street, Bentonville, AR



MINUTES

Attendance

Voting Members		Ex Officio		Staff		
Brittany Braithwaite	P	Johnetta Dexter	P	Tim Robinson (city council)	P	Shelli Kerr
P Dylan Turk	P	Lauren Haynes	P	Kalene Griffith (VB)	P	David Wright
Jerris Palmer		Steven Baker			P	Danielle Semsrott

Guest: Josh Stacey, Parks and Recreation; Meg Bourne with Art Feeds

- 1. Minutes from February 11 meeting.** The minutes for the February 11 meeting were not in the agenda packet. At the end of the meeting, the February 11 minutes were pulled up onto the tv screens to be reviewed. No recommended changes.

Dylan made a motion to approve the minutes. Johnetta seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

PROPOSALS

- 2. Bentonville Trolls.** David presented a proposal titled "Bentonville Trolls" to install three large wood sculptures along the trails at Slaughter Pen. Lauren mentioned that the proposal lists locating near the Momentary and she asked that they not be placed near The Momentary. Dylan expressed concern about the quality and what image does it project for Bentonville. He did indicate that he liked the recycled materials and the exploring concept. He was also concerned that the cost sets a precedence for what future artist may expect to be paid for public art. David reported that this was presented to him by the Walton Family Foundation that has already spoken with the artist. They wanted to get a general concept approval from the Public Art Advisory Committee before proceeding with discussions with the artist. Johnetta indicated that she liked the artwork. The committee wanted to have further conversations to include those members not present.

David and the committee agreed to table until the April meeting.

- 3. Art Feeds.** Josh Stacy and Megan Bourne presented a proposal to install a mural near the inclusive playground at Citizens Park. The artwork would be a digital design compiling individual artwork of students from the Sunshine School. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has already approved the artwork.

Lauren made a motion to approve the artwork and location; Dylan seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- 4. Bylaws.** Shelli reported that the draft bylaws were included with the agenda packet and distributed at the February meeting. Lauren asked about the Mayor appointing members. Shelli indicated that it is the same process for all city committees. Applications are accepted and then the Mayor makes a recommendation to the City Council for approval. Members agreed that more than four meetings in a one-year period would be cause for removal. Tim asked about the A & P and the schools as ex-officio not having the option to vote, noting that he ultimately votes at City Council. These are ex-officio because they are representatives of organizations and, not necessarily, the subject matter expert required to serve on the committee. They

discussed membership and decided to adjust from a minimum of three people to seven people and establish a quorum of four members.

Shelli will revise the bylaws according to the discussion and determine if an amendment to the public art policy is needed. Shelli will start advertising for a seventh position.

The committee agreed to table the item until revised bylaws are available.

NEW BUSINESS

5. **Elections.** The bylaws were not adopted, therefore, they did not hold officer elections.
6. **Budget.** Shelli provided a budget for 2019, 2020 and 2021. As she went through the budget, she provided the project updates – see Project Updates below. Universal Inseparability goes to Council tonight. Depending on the final cost to relocate Sassy, approximately \$15,000 remains in the 2020 budget. Kalene indicated she has approximately \$50,000 in her budget for public art.
7. **2020 Project Action Plan.** The committee reviewed the current inventory and past projects. They are in agreement to commission a project. Shelli suggested identifying the type of artwork to help refine the discussion – such as sculpture, mural, or interactive. Kalene suggested inviting Sam Dean with the Amazeum to an upcoming meeting to discuss what they are doing to ensure we are complementing what they do. Lauren noted that the audiences are different. There are concerns that the budget does not allow for larger projects and limits the type of artwork to be purchased. Shelli indicated they would need to have an idea of a project before requesting a larger public art budget.

The committee agreed to discuss this year's projects when a full committee is present. Members need to provide cost estimates for the recommendations they have submitted.

PROJECT UPDATES

8. **ColorFULL.** This item is on tonight's City Council meeting.
9. **Disposable Youth.** This temporary piece at the library was intended to go to Council for final approval. Since the Bentonville Film Festival postponed until August, the item is being pulled from the agenda until new dates are confirmed.
10. **Bright Rd Artwork.** Everything is moving along with Open Heart for Bright Road.
11. **Sassy Relocation.** Shelli indicated that they may not be able to use the original quote to relocate Sassy and are still seeking other quotes. She has asked the artist to submit a proposal to relocate as well.

OTHER

12. **School Ex-officio.** Tim asked if Jerris is an ex-officio member for the school. Jerris is a voting member and not serving in that capacity. Appointment of an ex-officio is needed in addition to the seventh voting member.
13. **Water Tower Lighting.** Tim is recommending revisiting lighting of the water tower. Shelli suggested that it is essentially an infrastructure lighting project and does not quite fall into the responsibility of this committee. She has started to work on options for the city to establish and manage lighting of the water tower.

Meeting adjourned at 1:04 p.m.