

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ART
Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2023 at 5:30 pm
Ridge Conference Room

Committee Members:

Cal Kenney (Chair)
Vacant
Judy Basker
Diane Dahlgren (Vice Chair) - Absent
Michael Holzinger – By Teams
Robyn Forbes - Absent
Sulaiha McDougall - Absent
Deanna Morse
Rebecca Shane

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

James Conway (Staff Liaison)
Vanessa Ogier (City Council) -By Teams

Guests:

Tori Middelstadt – Visit Grants Pass
Griffyn Storm – Visit Grants Pass

1. **Roll Call:** Chair Kenney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **Introductions:**
3. **Public Comment:**
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes for April 11, 2023.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Shane moved, and Member Holzinger seconded the motion to approve the minutes from April 11, 2023, with a small amendment of changing the wording of the reference to the “*lettering on the historic banner*” (section b, bullet #4) to “*the visual structure of the lettering.*” The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Kenney, Members Holzinger, Basker, Forbes, Morse, and Shane. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Vice Chair Dahlgren and Member McDougall.

The motion passed.

5. **Action Items:**
 - a. **Public Art of the Month:**
 - Chair Kenney passed around the Public Art of the Month (May). He said that the mural on the NAPA building was the art piece selected. He mentioned that the mural is by Ever Galvez. Chair Kenney said that we are going to do something different and choose the door at Tap Rock will be the Public Art of the Month for June.
 - b. **Budget Cut Review**
 - Chair Kenney opened the floor up to Council Liaison Ogier to give the committee a summary of the budget.
 - Council Liaison Ogier stated generally that they have to cut 2.6 million dollars, and these are operational expenses and police, and fire were the biggest cuts. She added that those two departments have the highest expenditures as well. She said all events were saved and we did not have to lay anyone off.
 - Member Basker asked how much is allocated for CoPA? Staff Liaison Conway said that there is \$15,000 for the Alley and \$15,000 for the public parking lot art.
 - Member Holzinger asked if there was money allocated for art maintenance? Staff Liaison Conway said yes, there is and it is approximately \$5,000.
 - The Group thanked Council Liaison Ogier for the clarification.
 - c. **Application Review for open seat on CoPA:**
 - Member Forbes asked if Joan Marie applied again. Chair Kenney said this is a plus as she put the effort out again to be a member of CoPA.
 - Member Shane commented that Joan Marie is really in to the community and has lots of experience.

- Member Basker asked if the Council interviews the applicants? Council Liaison Ogier answered that they don't for committees but will do it for commissions.
- The group mentioned that Joan Marie has an extensive background in art, she applied twice, she did a complete application, and she is involved in the community.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Morse moved, and Member Shane seconded the motion to recommend to City Council Joan Marie Robertson- Geisler to fill the open seat on CoPA. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Chair Kenney, Members Holzinger, Basker, Morse, Forbes, and Shane. "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent: Vice Chair Dahlgren and Member McDougall. The motion passed.

d. Review: Draft Art Walk Tour Map:

- Tori Middelstadt gave an overview of the Art Walk Tour Map with examples she handed out to the group. She mentioned that the map is foldable, she gave recognition to CoPA and the subcommittee who put in extensive amount of time to make the map happen. She added that Griffyn is working on the design features.
- The group talked about features and how difficult that the map is hard to read (regarding icons, numbers, and color contrast). The suggested changes by CoPA will be made, Griffyn assured the group.
- The group continued to look over and make sure the locations of the public art are correct.
- Chair Kenney asked Tori, how many maps will be available to the public? Tori said she will price out the printing, but it should be more than a few thousand copies.
- The Group discussed highlighting the building footprint of the individual restaurants on the map.
- Member Shane suggested adding 6th and 7th streets on the map for directionally challenged people. Member Morse agreed and to add a compass would help as well. Member Morse added that the number system should be in order, and she feels that people are more interested in art and less concerned if it is a mural or sculpture.
- Member Holzinger brought up the contrast of colors to Tori and Griffyn.

e. Project Discussion: Graffiti Wall, Crosswalk Art

- Chair Kenney said that Member Morse came up with a list of nice ideas to spend the unrestricted art funds on projects. He gave the group a sheet of paper with Member Morse's suggested projects to rank.
- A few of the projects on the list were community created mural, film festival, lighting our public art and a graffiti wall pilot (there are 26 suggested projects on the list).
- After the group ranked their preferences, Member Forbes summarized the groups suggested picks for projects. Member Forbes said that the community created mural, lighting our public art and funding another year of Public Art of the Month were the top three projects chosen by the group.
- Chair Kenney said it would be cool for there to be a subcommittee overseeing the community created mural. Member Forbes said she would love to be on the subcommittee. Member Shane, Forbes and Basker will be on the subcommittee.

6. Mattes from Committee Members and Staff

- Staff Liaison Conway updated the group on the Destination Downtown meeting put on by Travel Oregon. He mentioned that the idea of crosswalk and sidewalk

art is a good “low hanging” fruit to enhance the downtown and safety of the roadway.

- Staff Liaison Conway updated the group on the alley beautification project, a building owner has been approved, and Art in Motion is moving forward.
- Member Shane, briefed the group on AI art and the controversial side of AI art. The group adopted the fact that AI art will not be accepted in future “Call to Artists.”
- The group discussed the two submissions for Art in Motion and selected two pieces of art. Member Forbes voiced her support for the following motion but was not present during the vote.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Basker moved, and Member Shane seconded the motion to select the “yellow cat” and the “the person” by James Condos to be featured in the Art in Motion. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Kenney, Members Holzinger, Basker, Morse, and Shane. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Vice Chair Dahlgren and Member McDougall and Forbes. The motion passed.

7. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting

- Art Walk Tour Map Update/Review Draft
- 3 grants for projects

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Next meeting date: June 20, 2023, at 5:30 pm in the Ridge Conference Room.

Minutes prepared by James Conway, City Staff Liaison.