

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ART
Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2023 at 5:30 pm
Ridge Conference Room

Committee Members:

Cal Kenney (Chair)
Joan Marie Robertson-Geisler
Judy Basker
Diane Dahlgren (Vice Chair)
Michael Holzinger – By Teams
Robyn Forbes

Vacant

Deanna Morse
Rebecca (Becky) Shane

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

James Conway (Staff Liaison)
Vanessa Ogier (City Council) - Absent

Guests:

Melissa Ghiglieri - Artist

1. **Roll Call:** Chair Kenney called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.
2. **Introductions:**
3. **Public Comment:**
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes for June 20, 2023.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Morse moved, and Member Holzinger seconded the motion to approve the minutes from June 20, 2023, as amended. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Kenney, Vice Chair Dahlgren, Members Holzinger, Basker, Forbes, Morse, Robertson-Geisler, and Shane. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

The motion passed.

5. Action Items:

• **Alley Beautification Project:**

- Member Morse summarized the subcommittee meeting (joint meeting with two HBSC members and three CoPA members). She stated that the alley beautification came out of the Blue Zones Project which was a grant that the city received. She continued by saying that this project identified three alleys to be activated and that they are city parks. Member Morse continued to summarize and inform the committee on the history and background of the alley beautification and highlighted the importance of the themes of each alley.
- Member Morse said that the alley that we are dealing with now (alley leading into the Beaver Lot) is supposed to be about “community” where they also had alley activation events. She continued to give a synopsis on the process of the RFP and selection process for the alley beautification.
- Member Morse said that the other thing she said in the subcommittee meeting was that she like the proposal because it “took over” the whole alley and is immersive, a journey and an experience throughout the whole alley. We called for the characteristics that a person would pause and look deeply into the space, engage in the space and that a person would record themselves in the space (selfie space).
- Vice Chair Dahlgren informed the committee on the meeting with the HBSC (subcommittee). She said it was not a very collaborative meeting and she thought that they were going to get ideas that were more acceptable, and “we” did not get that. The committee continued to debrief the subcommittee meeting.

- Vice Chair Dahlgren suggested that CoPA needs to go forward and continue with the process. Member Morse agreed completely and voiced her stance in supporting the artist. Member Basker asked how many members are on the HBSC. Member Holzinger said it has 7 members and continued to brief the committee on the City Code and said that HBSC Chairperson (has a term limit) can be Chair for only two consecutive years and then must step down. Member Holzinger said he pointed it out to the city and has not received any answers (from the city).
- Melissa Ghiglieri (artist) gave a “breakdown” on her final proposal. This included the reasoning and research behind the outfits on the dogs. Melissa mentioned that she is aware that she uses the historic color pallet in the mural and that the brighter colors will be toned down to match the historic color pallet.
- Member Shane said she loves the design and suggested to change the Husky dog to a dog that reflects our native/indigenous people’s dogs. The committee agreed it should be a Wolf. Member Marie Robertson-Geisler asked the question, “does this costume reflect our local natives’ peoples beading and clothing?”
- Melissa answered yes.
- Vice Chair Dahlgren said she loves the proposal that would be on the King building, and she suggested to remove the words from the picture frame. She continued that she likes that there are plenty of spaces for “selfies.”
- Chair Kenney suggested to change the colors of the pedestals a different color and James (Staff Liaison Conway) asked if they could be wood or indigenous wood species. Chair Kenney said that seniors to two-year-olds will love this mural and that you can take pictures and selfies.
- Member Holzinger brought up safety concerns with a part of the mural on the green wall and wanted to make sure Melissa was safe around the electrical parts.
- Member Forbes made a few suggestions to add small accents like a mouse on the electrical box. She agreed that the pedestals should be toned down and not so bright. She suggested to add some hats for selfie areas and recognized that it would be a challenge due to people’s different heights.
- Member Morse suggested to add paw prints on the walkway of the alley. Melissa said that she thinks the paw prints will be nice and it depends on how much time the rest of the mural takes. Member Morse said that she showed the proposal to other people, and they had positive reactions like, “Oh my god, that is so cute and so good,” “I would definitely go see that.”

MOTION/VOTE

Vice Chair Dahlgren moved, and Member Morse seconded the motion to accept the current renderings with the suggestions built into what was at the meeting today and that CoPA will move forward and submit an application to the HBSC. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Kenney, Vice Chair Dahlgren, Members Holzinger, Basker, Forbes, Morse, Robertson-Geisler, and Shane. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. The motion passed.

- **Public Art of the Month:**
 - Chair Kenney passed around the Public Art of the Month (July) “Welcome to Grants Pass Oregon Mural.” He said it’s the newest mural in town and its pretty neat. Member Forbes said it is nice and bright. James (Staff Liaison Conway)

asked for the record, who the artist of the mural is, and the answer was Cate Battles. *(Mural on the building of 6th and E)*

- **Art Box Discussion – building the “Call for Artist.”**
 - Staff Liaison Conway (James) informed the committee that staff needs direction so they can write the “Call for Artist” document.
 - The committee asked if any of the boxes were in the historic district and the answer was no.
 - Member Holzinger said he will send the old “Call for Artist” to Staff.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Basker moved, and Member Shane seconded the motion to model the Call For Artist to be based on the previous one. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Kenney, Vice Chair Dahlgren, Members Holzinger, Basker, Forbes, Morse, Robertson-Geisler, and Shane. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. The motion passed.

6. Mattes from Committee Members and Staff

- Member Morse gave a history and background of the Committee on Public Art for the new members.

7. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting date: July 11, 2023, at 5:30 pm in the Ridge Conference Room.

Minutes prepared by James Conway, City Staff Liaison.