

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ART
Meeting Minutes – August 8, 2023 at 5:30 pm
Ridge Conference Room

Committee Members:

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

Vacant

Deanna Morse
Rebecca (Becky) Shane

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

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

Guests:

Sue Jordan – Daily Courier
Tori Middelstadt – Visit Grants Pass
Doug Walker - Rotary Member

1. **Roll Call:** Chair Kenney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **Introductions:** Chair Kenney introduced Sue Jordan from the Daily Courier, who is the photographer for the Public Art of the Month.
3. **Public Comment:** Doug Walker (*minute 17:30*) talked about how the Rotary Club is working on a community mural on the side of the Glass Forge building in downtown. He showed a concept that is “Alice in Wonderland” themed. He said it’s a large mural and they want to honor the Glass Forge. The mural will show a father reading to his daughter (Family), have 3D sculptures, and install glass on the building, with the community coming together to paint this. They want it to be an interactive selfie spot. He said it will start in October.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes for July 11, 2023.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Morse moved, and Vice Chair Dahlgren seconded the motion to approve the minutes from July 11, 2023, as amended (correcting Joan Marie Robertson- Geisler name). 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:

- **Article in Paper – “Squirmy” the Rock Snake:**
 - Chair Kenney wanted to talk about this later in the meeting. (*Minute 41:35*). Chair Kenney read a statement regarding to “Squirmy the Rock Snake” and local artist Linda Harmon.
 - *“We the Committee on Public Art (CoPA) advise the Grants Pass City Council to award a certificate of commendation. This being to Linda Harmon for her diligence in initiating and maintaining “Squirmy the Rock Snake.” This painted rock public art project resides in Riverside Park this summer of 2023. Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to a positive outcome.”* (This request passed unanimous at the meeting)

MOTION/VOTE

Member Shane moved, and Vice Chair Dahlgren seconded the motion to recommend to the City Council to award (Certificate of Accommodation) this lovely artist (Linda Harmon) for “Squirmy.” 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 (August) Deb Potts sculpture near the courthouse. He passed it around the room and mentioned that it will end the 3rd segment of the project.
- **Art Maintenance Discussion:**
 - Vice Chair Dahlgren asked if the “Goldminer” was ever repaired. Staff Liaison Conway said the “Goldminer” is done. He had Peter Sedlow look at it, and it is beyond repair. Member Holzinger said it was badly dry rotted. He mentioned that he said something to Susan Seereiter about it.
 - Staff Liaison Conway mentioned that the frog and the pedal is broken in the Frog Parking Lot. The committee briefly discussed this.
 - Member Morse asked about the bronze pieces and Staff Liaison Conway deferred to Member Holzinger to explain. Member Holzinger said that they need to be cleaned and waxed. Vice Chair Dahlgren mentioned that Clyde Ellis needs attention, and she said that the frog should be number one on the maintenance list. The committee discussed that it should be fixed, so it discourages people from further destroying it.
 - Staff Liaison Conway said if CoPA can get three pieces done this year, it would be a big win and the budget is \$5,000.
 - The top three pieces for maintenance were discussed by the committee and they agreed upon; The frogs in the Frog Lot, Wing Sculpture, and the Clyde Ellis sculpture. The committee unanimously agreed to ask staff to work with Peter Sedlow to maintain these pieces of Public Art.
- **Community Mural Project**
 - Chair Kenney summarized that the Public Art Unrestricted fund (by Republic Services) will help fund this.
 - Staff Liaison Conway mentioned that if CoPA forms a subcommittee on a Community Mural, they should collaborate with the Tourism Advisory Committee who would like to see a project like this.
 - Vice Chair Dahlgren asked what is going on with the “Barn Mural Project” (Grants Pass Museum of Art). Staff Liaison Conway said he has not heard anything and will follow up with Hyla.
 - *(Continued minute 27:20)*. The Committee discussed and agreed on having a subcommittee to work on the Community Mural Project. The committee made a motion (unofficial) to support the Community Mural Project that the Rotary is leading on the Glass Forge building.
 - Member Holzinger voiced his concern about the Mural Project (Rotary). He stated that he is concerned about the 3D elements and asked if they were

approved by the planning department. His other concern is there is not a complete proposal and CoPA should not be voting on it unless its complete.

- Member Morse asked if CoPA can get the Mural subcommittee together. Members Morse, Shane and Forbes volunteered to be a part of the subcommittee.

6. Mattes from Committee Members and Staff

- Vice Chair Dahlgren mentioned the Art Inventory and the need to update it. She said she was officially ready to “pass it off” to Staff Liaison Conway.
- Staff Liaison Conway handed some “time” to Tori Middelstadt. She informed the committee about the crosswalk and sidewalk art projects. The committee talked about compiling an artist list for future projects.
- Staff Liaison Conway summarized his visit with the City of Ashland’s art committee (PAAC). He continued to update the committee on their projects, the Art Box Project, Art in Motion, and Art Along the Rogue.

7. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Next meeting date: October 10, 2023, at 5:30 pm in the Ridge Conference Room.

Minutes prepared by James Conway, City Staff Liaison.