



Public Arts Advisory Committee Minutes

January 18, 2024

Regular Meeting

4:00pm–5:30pm, Siskiyou Conference Room

51 Winburn Way

Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER:

- a) Introductions and other news – **Carol and John Davis, owners of 552 A Street (potential mural art); Michael Dotson, Executive Director of KS Wild (proposing mural); Peter Finkle, WalkAshland; Mike Morrison, Public Works; Susan Jain, Planning Commission and interested in PAAC; Susie Smith, Ashland Writer’s Conference Idea.**
- b) Quorum count – **quorum achieved.**

Committee Members Present:	Liaisons & Staff Present:
Chair, Ken Engelund	Jennifer Chenoweth, Associate Planner
Beca Blake	Councilor Gina DuQuenne (via Zoom)
Tessa Elbettar	
Cassie Preskenis	
Stanley Smith	Liaisons & Staff Absent:
Heather Warden	Stef Seffinger, Parks and Rec Commissioner
	Special Guests:
Committee Members Absent:	Carol & John Davis
Laura Bloom	Michael Dotson
	Peter Finkle
	Susan Jain
	Mike Morrison
	Susie Smith

II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

“We acknowledge and honor the aboriginal people on whose ancestral homelands we work – the Ikirakutsum Band of the Shasta Nation, as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home here today. We denounce the egregious acts of the colonizers and government and recognize the horrific impacts that still exist today. We honor the first stewards in the Rogue Valley and the lands we live and depend on: Tribes with ancestral lands in and surrounding the geography of the Ashland Watershed include the original past, present, and future indigenous inhabitants of the Shasta, Takelma, Athabaskan people. We also recognize and acknowledge the Shasta village of K’wakhaha – “Where the Crow Lights” – that is now the Ashland City Plaza.”

Read by Chair, Ken Engelund

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III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) November 16, 2023 regular meeting (December 21 meeting canceled)

Stanley Smith motioned to approve the draft November 16, 2023 meeting minutes with no corrections. Beca Blake seconded the motion; All approved to adopt the November 16 meeting minutes.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM (for items not on the agenda; up to 3 minutes per speaker)

V. LIAISON REPORTS

Liaisons:

- City Council Liaison, Gina DuQuenne; **Council DuQuenne notes that she has been reassigned at the City Council liaison to PAAC.**
- Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison, Stef Seffinger; **no update, not in attendance.**
- Community Development Liaison, Jennifer Chenoweth; **Chenoweth recently attended an initial meeting for the proposal of a Playwright Walk in Ashland. The inspiration is from the Iowa City, Iowa Lit Walk. This is not a city-initiated project but would need to be vetted by the PAAC and HPAC and ultimately approved by City Council to move forward. A concept plan is drafted, and a presentation will be coming to the PAAC and HPAC soon.**

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) KS Wild Street Mural Concept Presentation – Michael Dotson, Executive Director, to present conceptual plan for public mural – **this proposal by KS Wild is to install a mural on a building within the Historic Railroad District (552 A Street) to commemorate the Klamath River Restoration project. It's a collaboration with the building owners, Ridges to Riffles Indigenous Conservation Group (tribal support), Roger Peet (a Portland based artists & muralist who has managed dozens of endangered species mural installations), the Center for Biological Diversity (funding for project), and KS Wild (coordination and in support of the project). Overall, PAAC is in favor of the project and looks forward to reviewing the artist renderings.**
- b) Heritage Tourism Workshops – **Chair Engelund attended the workshop with the HPAC Chair, Beverly Hovenkamp and Chamber of Commerce representatives; presentations were well received.**
- c) PAAC Study Session Planning – **the study session is scheduled for January 19, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm.**
- d) PAAC Volunteer Position Openings – total of 9 positions; recruitment and recommendations can include student (high school/college) representatives. **Chair Engelund made a proposal for a motion to fill all 9 positions of the Public Art**

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Advisory Committee per Resolution No. 2023-06 and to include two student representatives (1 year term); one from AHS and one from SOU. Tessa moved to approve the motion and Cassie seconded the motion. All AYES voice vote approved. Next steps: Ken will draft a letter to the Superintendent and reach out to the AHS art teacher. Tessa will reach out to SOU students.

- e) Marking Ashland Places (MAP) II – update from the task group and proposed motion for presentation with HPAC and APRC meeting in February by Chair Engelund. – **The MAP II task group has selected the Lithia Park entrance for the MAP II hub location. Chair Engelund made a motion to approve the hub sculpture location to be located at the entrance of Litha Park and work with HPAC and meeting with Ashland Park and Recreation to present idea. Stan approved the motion, and it was seconded by Cassie. All AYES voice vote to approve the motion.**
- f) Crosswalk Project – Update and motion by Chair Engelund. – **Chair Engelund motioned to move the crosswalk project. The proposal is to install a crosswalk at the entrance of Litha Park. The cost estimate is around \$10,000 and the Call for Artist announcement will include \$850 for the artist selected and the artist will be asked to consult with Public Works for an additional \$150. Heather motioned to approve the crosswalk proposal; Stanley seconded the motions. All AYES voice vote to approve.**
- g) ODOT Controller Boxes – Update on selection panel; advertising upcoming projects/ notifications; and how to inform interested artists on future opportunities. – **The Selection Committee is meeting on February 2 to select the artist for each box location. They will report on the selection process and who was selected during the next PAAC meeting.**
- h) AAUW Big Ideas Series “Power of Public Art” – Chair Engelund was asked to present at the Ashland Public Library on March 5. **The committee suggested and agreed that Gina could collaborate with Ken on the presentation.**
- i) The Power of Public Art video – PAAC to review and make recommendations for use and modifications/edits for upcoming presentation – **No suggestions were made for modifications of the video to make it more useful in presentations.**

VII. OTHER BUSINESS AND UPDATES

- a) Velocity (bouncing ball sculpture) repairs; update by Mike Morrison – **The sculpture Velocity has several cracks at the base and has been closed off to public access for several weeks. Morrison is working with the original engineer who assisted with the design of this sculpture, and an aluminum welder. The costs of the repairs are expected to be around \$2,500. The City will assist with the contract and lifting the sculpture so the welding can be completed. The work is expected to occur within the next few weeks.**
- b) Public Arts Map Virtual Walking Tour – the link is live and updated
- c) Golden Connections Medallions – final four were installed on 12/13/2023
- d) Micah Blacklight “Ancestors Future - Crystalizing Our Call” – Update – **Ken to bring**

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- posters of the proposed art the upcoming Town Hall.**
- e) John Pugh Mural "Where the Crow Lights," Elks Building – Update - **Ken to bring posters of the proposed art the upcoming Town Hall.**
 - f) City Council Commissions & Committees Appreciation Event, December 18 – Jenn has items to handout to those who were not able to attend. – **Jenn handed out notebooks to those who were not able to attend the event.**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Next Meeting Date: **Thursday, February 15 @ 4:00pm**

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