



Public Arts Advisory Committee Minutes – DRAFT



April 18, 2024
Regular Meeting
4:00pm–5:30pm, Siskiyou Conference Room
51 Winburn Way
Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER:

- a) Welcome & Introductions – **Chair, Ken Engelund called the meeting to order. Mike Morrison, City of Ashland Public Works, joined the meeting to provide maintenance updates.**
- b) Quorum count – **quorum achieved.**

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

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’wakhakha – “Where the Crow Lights” – that is now the Ashland City Plaza.”

Read by Cassie Preskenis

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 18, 2024 regular meeting – **Cassie motioned to approve the minutes with no corrections; Laura seconded the motion. All approved.**

IV. PUBLIC FORUM (for items not on the agenda; up to 3 minutes per speaker) – **none**

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V. LIAISON REPORTS

Liaisons:

- a) City Council Liaison, Gina DuQuenne; **Gina and Stef would like feedback from the group about how they can assist the PAAC with getting projects through. Reach out to Gina and Stef using their official council/commissioner emails with any ideas or suggestions.**
- b) Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison, Stef Seffinger; **no update**
- c) Community Development Liaison, Jennifer Chenoweth; **1). Completed two orientation trainings for new PAAC members. 2). To prevent unintentional breaches of Public Meeting Law, emails sent to the entire group will be sent to sender email address and the remaining members will be included in the bcc (blind carbon copy). 3). Brandon Goldman and the Parks Interim Director, Leslie Eldridge are working together to create a streamlined process for installing public arts in City Parks. Handout of draft process to be distributed. 4). The Playwright Walk is on the Council agenda for May 7.**

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) Velocity (bouncing ball sculpture) Repairs Update & Discussion: Mike Morrison will provide update to group – **Mike has been working with the engineer who initially did the calculations for the designer. The fix was attempted last week, but work had to be stopped due to the site's restricted access (site conditions) and the danger it was presenting. Mike has a meeting with the engineer to discuss potential solutions for the fix. It may require reinforcement of the base which could alter the look of the sculpture. Other options are to take the sculpture away from the site and make repairs off-site then reinstall.**
Uplifting artwork on south end of town update from Mike is that he is working with the artist who is now under contract to make some repairs to the work. Unsuitable materials will be replaced with materials that are more favorable to weathering. ODOT approval for painting three utility boxes is underway. Application materials have been submitted and emails seeking bids from painters for the prep work have been sent.
- b) Appointments and Reappointments for PAAC Committee Members: **four members terms are expiring. Stanley Smith (Vice Chair) and Laura Bloom are not seeking reappointment; Ken Engelund and Cassie Preskenis are seeking reappointment. Stanley and Laura will be missed and the PAAC hopes they will find time to occasionally attend future PAAC meetings as members of the public or guests. The time and service they have provided to the community is commendable. Thank you. Two vacancies will need to be filled and PAAC is still looking to fill two student representative vacancies. The next meeting (May regular meeting) will include nominations and voting for Chair and Vice Chair of the PAAC.**
- c) Marking Ashland Places II: Community Development report on APRC consultation for

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a systematic process/framework for identifying and approving locations for public art installations within Ashland's parks (such as identifying the location for a Hub site in Lithia Park). PAAC motion (March meeting) to proceed with community involvement committee planning on hold. **The PAAC reviewed the proposed process for placing public art in Parks. After review, the discussion focused on item #7, the Selection Panel Formation. The PAAC seeks clarification on why the selection committee includes APRC representatives. PAAC notes that the purpose of the Selection Committee is to approve the art objectively versus subjectively, and that the "artist criteria" drives the approval process. PAAC will review the existing process outlined in Chapter 2.29 and the process that occurred with MAP I, Golden Connections.**

- d) Cross Walk Project: Community Development update on PAAC motion (March meeting) to install art in the crosswalk at the entrance to Lithia Park – **A proposal was developed to streamline the crosswalk project with the idea that it could be part of the beautification initiative. The streamlined process would include:**
- PAAC to outline and secure Admin approval for a **concrete budget**. (ASAP)
 - *This would entail providing the City Manager with an estimated budget proposal showing line items such as 1) Materials Cost, 2) Installation Cost, 3) Artists Payments, and 4) Other Associated Costs*
 - PAAC to publicly issue a call for artist proposals. (ASAP)
 - Establishment of a selection committee by PAAC. (May)
 - Selection committee to develop and forward recommendation to PAAC. (May)
 - PAAC to present the final artist selection to the City Manager for approval within the Beautification initiative framework. (June)
 - Order materials and schedule installation, pre-July 4.
- e) ODOT Controller Boxes: Status of ODOT approval of selected box projects. Sub-Committee recommendations and actions for selecting next set of boxes. (**Action items from March meeting**) **Two of the task members not present; item was not discussed**
- f) Golden Connections: May 18 Celebration planning – **Celebration will include remarks from the Mayor, HPAC Chair, and PAAC Chair; historic preservation awards; acknowledgement of the bronze installations (Golden Connections); a walking tour by Peter Finkle and several other education events.**
- g) Round Table: Member open discussion of project ideas or opportunities (2 minutes each) **Events mentioned during round table: John Pugh fundraising; Haynes & Friends Grant to install artwork in vacant buildings; Juneteenth & Micah Blacklight event fundraiser; PAAC Master Plan update; Ashland Chamber Sidewalk sale event May 17-19; Ashland Independent Film Festival; Woman Kind art exhibit.**

VII. OTHER BUSINESS AND UPDATES

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- a) Playwright Walk Concept: Update on presentation to Historic Preservation Advisory Committee, April 3, 2024 – **Going before Council May 7**
- b) Community Development support for PAAC: ~ 2 hours per week. **Tabled for next meeting due to time constraints.**
- c) Study Session – Task Groups Proposals Update (**Action item** from Feb. meeting): Task groups to form a proposal or project to present to the group **Tabled for next meeting due to time constraints.**
- d) Placemaking Motion (**Action item** from Feb. meeting): Ken and Gina to provide update to group regarding the wording of the February 15 Placemaking Motion that was put on hold **Tabled for next meeting due to time constraints.**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Next Meeting Date: Thursday, May 16 @ 4:00 pm – **Special thanks to Stanley Smith and Laura Bloom for many years of PAAC community service.**

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