

-----Original Message-----

From: Wendy Eppinger <emailforwendy27@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2022 9:36 AM

To: Planning Commission - Public Testimony <PC-public-testimony@ashland.or.us>

Subject: advisory commission testimony Public Art Commission

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Please acknowledge this e mail testimony in regards to the Say Their Names proposed sculpture by Micah Lightfoot at Ashland Creek Park. my name is Wendy Eppinger I live at 190 Walker Ave and my phone number is 541 482 7303..unfortunately I will be traveling during the meeting and will not be able to attend.

I am disturbed by this proposed piece in two ways....

No.1. The process was flawed. Requests for summittals talks were sent to participating organizations and “were picked up locally “ but my inquiry on 8/3 as to “local sources” was never responded to by BASE or Say Their Names .I subsequently found out that there were only 4 submittals. I don’t think any public monies should be spent on an project with so few submissions.

No. 2...Mr. Lightfoot’s Proposal... I believe his piece does not really represent his intended wishes. I have read his statement many times and believe what he has created graphically does not reflect his intentions. To the general public his facial image projects an adversity which I feel was not his intention.

Ashland Next Door a web based community publication, received 142 reactions to this proposed piece. Please peruse these statements under Amy Titus, the woman who presented this piece.

Proposed solution

Repeat the calls for submission to include a wider population of artists

Have a group of professional skilled artists to work with Mr. Blacklight to aesthetically represent his intention.

I belong to a group of local experienced artists and am including a selection of their responses to this proposed sculpture.....in a separate e mail. thank you for taking my reponses seriously.