



Minutes
Public Art Commission
Special Meeting
8:00 a.m.
November 7, 2016

Attendance

Commissioners: Garrington, Merchant, Newman, Friend, Block-Brown, Bussell, Fuhmark, Seltzer (staff liaison)

Absent:

Lemhouse (council liaison)

Guests:

Dave Kanner, city administrator
Dale Shostrom, chair Historic Commission

Minutes of the October 24 special meeting were approved with corrections.

Review Proposed Changes to AMC

Dave Kanner distributed his proposed changes to the Ashland Municipal Code related to public art on listed and contributing properties in historic districts in Ashland. Kanner's proposal incorporated input from the Community Development department and the Historic Commission including proposed criteria for the HC to consider when evaluating public art proposals.

In addition, Mr. Kanner distributed notes of the Historic Commission recent meeting, the notes had not yet been approved by the HC and a copy of the Mayor's report to the City Council on his meetings with HC members and PAC members.

The PAC identified changes and edits in the proposed document and, following the meeting, Mr. Kanner emailed the PAC and the HC with a revised document which reflects the PAC input.

The HC notes provided by Kanner included two additional requests to be included in the proposed change. The PAC was not amenable to adding those statements and agreed that a joint meeting between the HC and the PAC would be beneficial to discuss and understand the reasoning behind the request.

Friend will work with Shostrom to determine a date and time that will work for all PAC and HC members.

Theater Corridor Review

The PAC interviewed artist Koryn Rolstad via conference call. Friend asked each commission member to take their own notes. Rolstad was asked to address the following questions which were sent to her in advance:

- 1) The corridor project requires integrated lighting as a critical element and this pedestrian space needs to be as engaging in the day as it is at night. How will you create a public art project that meets these requirements? Share with us and describe any examples of completed work where this is demonstrated.

- 2) How will you meet the artist's responsibility to complete all of the technical aspects of this project including: engineering, fabrication with integrated light elements, and installation? Share with us and describe any examples of completed work where this is demonstrated.
- 3) What limitations and challenges do you envision for this specific corridor project with the \$100,000 budget and how will you creatively overcome them? Why are you confident that you can execute an exceptional corrido project meeting the stated intent of and criteria within this budget?
- 4) We will engage the Ashland community in multiple public input opportunities to help the selected artist meet the public art intention of this project. What information from our community will help you develop successful concepts and a final project? What has been your experience with the challenges and benefits of brining public input into the public art creative process?

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Next meeting dates:

Monday, November 14 special meeting

Friday, November 18 regular meeting

December 9 regular meeting

November 14, 2016 Updated by Dave Kanner following PAC meeting on November 7 and emailed to PAC and HC

2.29.165 Review of artwork on Individually Listed and Contributing Structures in Historic Districts.

A. The Public Art Commission shall seek input from the Historic Commission prior to issuing a Call for Artist for public art to be sited on structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places or on contributing properties within a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places. Historic Commission recommendations to the Public Art Commission shall be provided within 45 days of delivery of the Call for Artist to the Community Development Department. Historic Commission recommendations shall be advisory only.

B. In its review of public art proposed for installation on structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places or on contributing properties within a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places, the Public Art Commission shall apply the following criteria:

1. Public art shall not be located on a building façade with a public entrance.
2. The number of murals per block face may be limited.
3. Historically significant murals (including historic advertisements) shall not be painted over, even if faded.
4. Murals shall not be allowed on an unpainted exterior building wall made of stone or brick without the consent of the City Council.
5. To the extent practicable, murals shall be applied only to the flat planes of walls.
6. Imitative materials including but not limited to asphalt siding, wood textured aluminum siding, and artificial stone shall should be avoided in public art installations.

C. The Historic Commission shall review public art proposed on structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places and on contributing properties within a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places using the following criteria:

1. ~~The scale of the public art should be appropriate to the building and the site.~~ Public art should not be placed in a site where it is overwhelmed or competing with the scale of the site, adjacent architecture, large signage, billboards, etc.
2. ~~The installation of the public art should complement and enhance the historic nature of the building and be incorporated architecturally into the building exterior.~~
3. The location of public art on the building shall not cover or detract from significant or character-defining architectural features such as such as windows, doors, pilasters, cornices, windows, doors or other building trim, feature bands, or other recessed or projecting features.
4. The visual integrity of the building should be maintained after the public art is applied to the exterior by preserving prominent vertical and horizontal lines created by architectural features such as columns, posts, piers, windows, doors, lintels, windowsills, feature bands, the foundation, base or other recessed or projecting features.

- ~~5. To the extent practicable, murals shall be applied only to the flat planes of walls.~~
- ~~6. Imitative materials including but not limited to asphalt siding, wood textured aluminum siding, and artificial stone shall be avoided in public art installations.~~
- ~~7. The number of murals per block face may be limited.~~

D. Historic Commission input to the Public Art Commission on proposed public art concepts shall be provided within 45 days of delivery of the proposal to the Community Development Department. In addition to the Public Art Commission, Historic Commission input shall be provided directly to the City Council.

E. The Community Development Department shall provide notice of Historic Commission review of proposed public art to owners of record of all properties located within 200 feet of the perimeter of the subject site. Owners of record shall be determined by the most recent property tax assessment roll. The notice shall include the street address of the individually listed or historic contributing building, a summary of the proposal, and the applicable criteria for the decision in subsections 2.29.165. B and C.

F. For public art proposed in a historic district but not attached or applied to a structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places or on contributing properties within a Historic District, the Public Art Commission shall provide proposed public art concepts to all City Commissions for review. A City Commission may review the artist concept using its existing powers and criteria, and in its advisory role, provide written recommendations to the City Council. City Commission may not participate in the creative design process.

The following items provided by Mr. Kanner via the Historic Commission were not approved by the PAC and therefore not incorporated into the above document.

Section A: Call for artists (call for entries, RFQ, RFP) use language in suggestion 1 of Mayor’s Report to City Council dated April 17, 2016. “Have the PAC appear before the HC when an RFQ for new public art is being created and seek HC input for that RFQ;” Thus, include the HC review for call for artist to all public art in historic districts rather than limiting to listed or contributing structure.

Section B: - E – change to public art installation on structures in historic districts permitted on noncontributing structures using process and standards outlined in sections B thru E. Prohibit public art installation on individually listed or historic contributing structures.

- The HC concern is that painting or attaching public art to a historic contributing building permanently alters the building materials, structure and/or architectural features. Additionally, the HC discussed that public art, like building, can be in place for long periods of time and therefore a change to a historic contributing structure can last a generation or more. Cities in Oregon such as Portland, Salem and Milwaukie prohibit public art installations on historic contributing building to address potential damage to building, changes to architectural features, and broader concerns regarding degree of change in nature or character of the historic districts as a whole.