

CITY OF ASHLAND

PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION - REGULAR MEETING March 19, 2021 AGENDA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
8:30 a.m. via zoom
- II. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Public Arts Commission regular meeting of February 19, 2021
- IV. **PUBLIC FORUM –**
- V. **LIAISON REPORTS**
 - Council Liaison – Stephen Jensen
 - Community Development Liaison – Aaron Anderson
 - APRC Liaison – Jim Lewis
- VI. **OTHER BUSINESS**
 - TOT Allocation 2021 – 2023
 - Recruitment
- VII. **PAC WORKPLAN**
 - HUB Artwork
 - Strategic Goals
- VIII. **PROJECT UPDATES**
 - Expanding the Awareness of Public Art
 - Masterworks Plaques
- IX. **ADJOURNMENT**
Next Meeting: April 16, 2021
- X. **ATTACHMENTS**
Minutes from Feb. 19, 2021 meeting
Strategic Goals
Peter Finkle: requested topics & expanded text
Masterworks Final Revisions
Selection Panel Report

**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING - Draft
February 19, 2021**

AUDIO

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Andy Stallman called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. via Zoom.

Commissioners Present:

Andy Stallman
Laura Bloom
Sandra Friend
Jennifer Longshore

Staff Present:

Aaron Anderson, Associate Planner

APRC Liaison:

Jim Lewis, absent

Absent Members:

Stanley Smith

Council Liaison:

Stephen Jensen

Members of the Public:

Cassie Preskenis
Johanna Pope
add Peter Finkle

II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA - None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Public Arts Commission regular meeting of January 15, 2021.

Commissioner Friend/Longshore m/s to approve the minutes of January 15, 2021 as corrected. Vote: ALL AYES. Motion passed.

Commissioner Friend introduced Johnna Pope who is attending as an invited guest and potential commissioner.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

Cassie Preskenis attended and spoke about the Say Their Names memorial and offered a brief update, and stated that the stakeholders continue to seek a BIPOC artist to collaborate with.

V. LIAISON REPORTS

- Council Liaison – Stephen Jensen

Councilor Jensen reported that the TOT allocation is in fact going to be kept at 5% rather than being reduced to 3% as had been proposed. The Total TOT revenue is off by over 60%. Jensen commented on the City Manager recruitment process and the proposed East Main Park, and stated the Community Center and Pioneer Hall rehabilitations are also underway. Finally, Budget season is in process.

- Community Development Liaison – Aaron Anderson
Contracts with selected artists is almost complete. The City has received 2 of the 3 and hopes to receive the last one this week.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS/NEWS

- Commissioner Recruitment

Stallman mentioned that there are two vacancies and hopes that we can recruit new interested parties.

- Mural Policy/ Code Compliance

Stallman mentioned that there had been an inquiry about the murals on Fordyce and explained that there was not a process to acquire public art after the fact, therefore these are a code compliance issue.

- Utility Boxes

There had been complaints about graffiti on a number of the utility boxes that had been painted as part of an earlier PAC project. Michael Morrison in the Public Works Dept. sent the concern to the Electrical Dept. who cleaned the graffiti. Friend mentioned that she had been contacted by Grants Pass about a utility box painting program and briefly discussed the interaction

- “Welcome to Ashland” sign

Stallman mentioned that the relocated Ashland sign was once again hit by a car, and it will be repaired and replaced.

- Art & Beyond (*should be ArtBeyond*): Scott Malburn

Commissioner Friend discussed Art & Beyond and the potential synergies between PAC and the ~~Shinder~~ *Schneider* museum. The new art experience is being called “Art Beyond” with the goal to bring visitors to Ashland. It is modeled after desert X and will involve five local sites. The event will be between May-July and is a test event. If it goes well the project could be expanded in future years.

- Glenn Hill’s Proposed Public Art Project

Stallman discussed the proposed ‘silk road’ project and the requested endorsement for help to apply for grants. Smith provided his thoughts via email as he is unable to attend, which Stallman read into the record. For background this is a project that was previously proposed to PAC in 2008 but the artist wasn’t able to move the project forward at that time. Longshore stated that she was not clear on what the effect of the PAC endorsement would be, and that there were a number of potential red flags. There was discussion about the previous endorsement that was drafted in 2008, but unfortunately a copy of that letter has not been able to be found. Bloom stated that she had a number of questions as well. There was general agreement that without additional information the PAC could not provide any endorsement.

VII. PAC WORKPLAN

- HUB Artwork

Stallman provided a summary of a visit with both Suenn Ho and Jennifer Corrio when they visited Ashland. Ms. Corrio had inquired about making a presentation to the PAC when she presents her design concepts. Stallman stated that Ann Seltzer strongly suggested to not allow an in-person presentation because the RFQ did not mention this. Stallman stated that there will need to be a presentation to APRC for final approval of the selected design, followed by Council approval.

VIII. PROJECT UPDATES

- MAP – Final Revisions & Sub-Committee future

Stallman stated that he has communicated with Masterworks the recommendations of the subcommittee and the redesign is in process. With Stallman resigning from the PAC he asked for interest in people who would take this project on. Dale Shostrom has indicated that he would be willing to take over if required.

- Expanding the Awareness of Public Art – Jennifer Longshore

Longshore described her meeting with Peter Finkle and a number of the ideas to expand the awareness of public art. Peter Finkle recently did an article on the utility boxes. Longshore stated that the utility box project is a 'lost child' of the city's public art inventory.

Stallman/Friend m/s to formally consider the utility boxes as included in the City's public art inventory. Vote: ALL AYES. Motion passed.

Stallman suggested that someone take on the research to confirm that these the utility boxes had indeed been previously approved by Council. Longshore agreed to look into previous council packets to confirm that these are in fact already part of the City's public art inventory.

Longshore stated that ~~her~~ *she* and Peter Finkle would like to ~~being~~ *begin* using the Power of Public Art presentation to local groups, and are interested in presenting a shorter version of it (there was no discussion). There are several other ideas including developing an app that could be leveraged for walking tours or other ways to share the City's public art.

- Power of Public Art (PPA) presentation – Sandy Friend

Friend discussed ~~to~~ the original intent of the PPA presentation and the background of the work done by Tom Furhmark and Allison Renwick. She feels that the PAC should establish guidelines for its use to ensure that the integrity of the piece is maintained. There are three different versions of the presentation slides (PC and Mac) and Video. The presentation should be considered a PAC marketing tool.

Stallman asked where we stand on being able to edit this, and that we need an answer. Stallman said that he would contact Steve Jensen to ensure that he has complete versions of the presentation, upload to the google drive, and resend the link to the commission.

The Commission continued their discussion about expanding the awareness of public art. It was proposed to have a future study session to specifically discuss presentation strategies.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

	cmptd	cmptd	qtr1	qtr2	qtr3	qtr 4
Goal 5 Secure additional funding for future public art projects						
Objective 1 Investigate public/private partnerships						
Goal 6 Identify locations and opportunities for future public art projects						
Objective 1 Identify sites for public art out of the downtown						
Strategy 1 Research and map prospective public art sites [considering opportunities for murals at the skate board park plus other diverse artwork projects]						
Objective 2 Identify sites for public art in the downtown area						
Strategy 1 Explore opportunities for artwork [murals, electrical boxes, etc]						
Objective 3 Research renting public artwork						
Objective 4 Offer assistance to Public Works Department to identify artistically-interesting functional pieces such as benches and bike racks as a consideration for city purchasing standards.						
Goal 7 Support public art opportunities for regional artists						
Objective 1 Support projects that offer opportunities for regional artists						
Strategy 1 Collaborate with the Schneider Museum of Art to plan a Pop-Up public art event						
Strategy 2 Support programs related to Pop-Up event						
Objective 2 Develop 'Artistic Bench Project' to include plein air event in partnership with businesses, commissions, other organizations						

I would like to request the following two topics be placed on the March meeting agenda. I talked with Jennifer and she thought they seemed good to present, though she also thought the second request might be too large of a topic to handle in one meeting. Let me know if these seem reasonable to you.

"Ashland Public Art Collection" web page/story map

At the November 20, 2020 meeting, I was given the go-ahead to write expanded descriptions of each artwork pictured on this web page. I have completed five in draft form, ranging in length from 163 to 236 words.

My request: I would like feedback from commissioners before I write more. I am attaching two of the draft artwork descriptions.

[Andy, if you think it would be helpful to share these with the commissioners so they can give feedback, feel free. If you want to wait, that's okay too.]

Ashland Public Art Collection video possibilities

Background: After I published the article about painted utility boxes at WalkAshland.com, I was contacted by a video creator. Keegan Van Horn and his videographer are creating a "walk and talk" video based on my article, along the route of the 2009 painted utility boxes. We did the filming February 24, but it will take them a few weeks to edit the film.

Keegan works at Southern Oregon PBS (SOPBS) and also has a video production company with two friends called Sailor Boy Media. They make 15 to 30 minute videos for release on their website and YouTube. Some of these are edited to make 2 minute videos that are shown on SOPBS.

My request: Would PAC be interested in assisting me to create a short video about each artwork in the Ashland public art collection? Keegan and I were thinking a video of two to five minutes per artwork might be the sweet spot in terms of getting people to watch them. We would need to find a source of funding, which I would be glad to work on.

We could brainstorm ways to use these videos.

Here are a few possible uses I can think of:

1. Link to videos from the Ashland Public Art Collection web page. Many people, especially young people, prefer to learn new information in the form of videos rather than text.

2. Play them between shows on SOPBS as part of PAC's mission to educate people about public art.
3. Play them between shows on RVTV as part of PAC's mission to educate people about public art.
4. Use them in a future Ashland Art Walking Tours app.
5. Have a QR code at some of the public artworks that allows people to watch the video as they are looking at the artwork.

PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION web page --- DRAFT expanded descriptive text

Fall Splendor (2015) by Annette Julien.

Made of steel and glass.

Location: Calle Guanajuato staircase from Granite Street to Ashland Creek

[200 words]

Have you ever seen a Chinese lantern flower pod, or steel that looks like lace? If you see the sculpture by Annette Julien called Fall Splendor, you will see both. Julien began her process by collecting samples of the plant leaves and "skeleton" flower pods near Ruch. The sculpture's leaves are made of Corten steel, bent using a hydraulic wood splitter adapted for the purpose.

Making the sculpture's 1/8" stainless steel skeleton pods began with actual Chinese lantern flower skeleton pods. She cut flat pieces of small pods, copied them on a copier, then enlarged the designs to the size of the sculpture. Nature's own lacy designs were cut in the stainless steel using a water-jet cutter. Each finished pod is made of five pieces of cut stainless steel seamlessly welded together. You will see in each pod a bright red "seed," also found in real Chinese lantern pods. These seeds, made of glass, were hand blown at the Gathering Glass Studio.

According to Julien, there is no deep meaning built into the sculpture, simply the beauty and splendor of autumn (hence the name "Fall Splendor") and the unusual ways the Chinese lantern plant and seed pods express that splendor.

You can read a comprehensive article about Fall Splendor and the artist Annette Julien at the following link: <https://walkashland.com/2020/11/08/fall-splendor-ashland-public-art/>

Pacific Fisher (2015) by Jeremy Criswell.

Made of ceramic mosaic tile, concrete and steel.

Location: One of three sculptures on or near the Bandersnatch Trail.

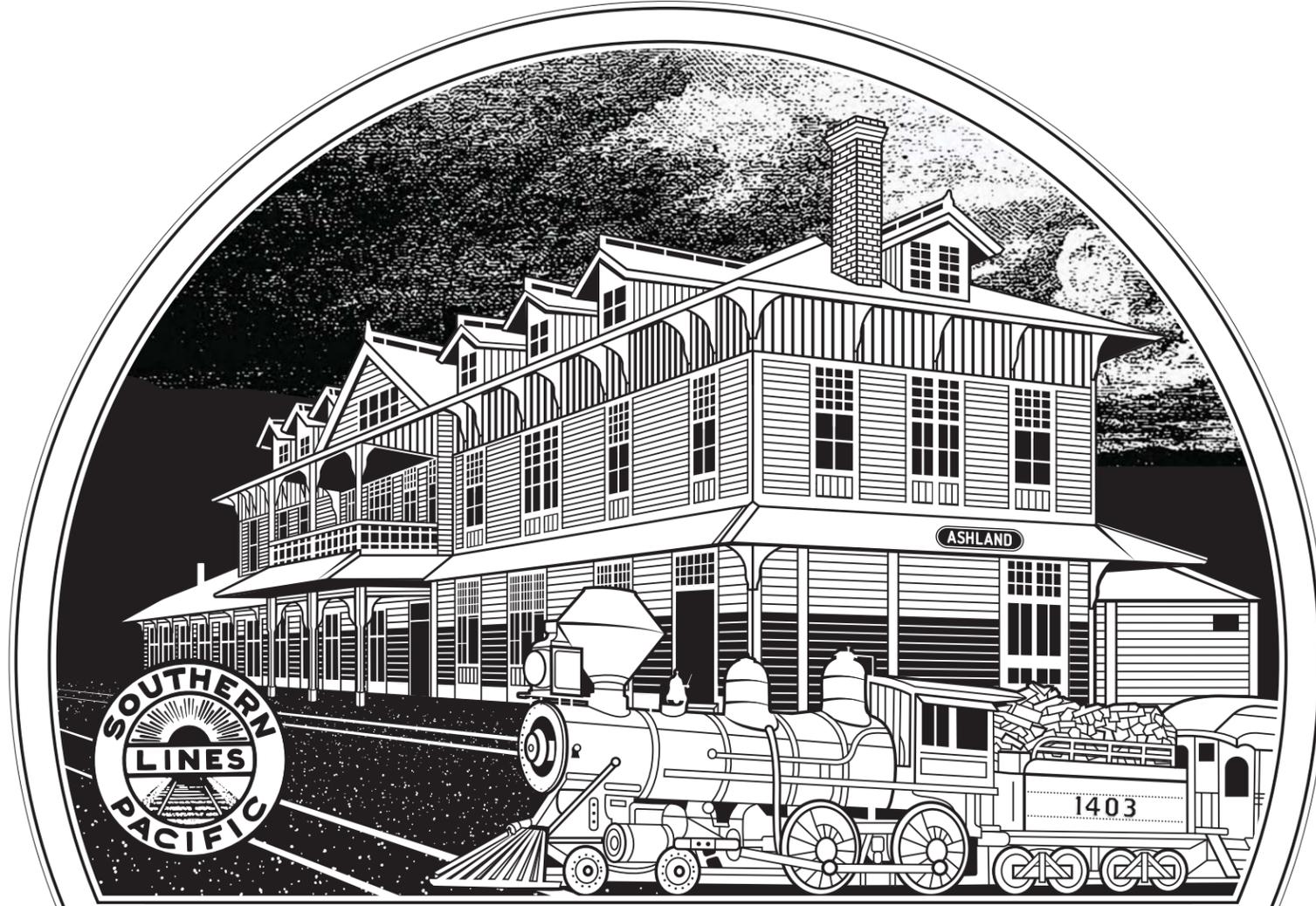
[193 words]

The Pacific Fisher is an important but little known animal native to the Ashland watershed. Artist Jeremy Criswell's sculpture of the Pacific Fisher, dedicated in 2015, is made with ceramic mosaic tile set in concrete, reinforced with steel rebar. Criswell hand-made each one of the striped half-moon tiles on the front, while the colorful tiles on the back are hand-made Italian glass. For the base, he creatively imprinted fresh leaves gathered near the site of the sculpture into wet clay. He carefully preserved the leaves' veins, then applied multiple colors of glaze to capture their look.

The sculpture is named "Marty," in honor of forester and ecosystem restoration expert Marty Main. He has dedicated his adult life to the health of Southern Oregon forests and to education

about ecosystem balance. He explained that Pacific fishers do not eat fish! They do eat small mammals like mice, squirrels, rabbits, and one that's a surprise – porcupines. Their population was decimated in Oregon due to the fur trade in the late 1800s. According to Marty, a healthy and growing population of Pacific fishers in the Ashland watershed is a sign of ecosystem health in our watershed.

You can read a comprehensive article about Pacific Fisher and the artist Jeremy Criswell at the following link: <https://walkashland.com/2020/09/25/pacific-fisher-art-on-ashlands-bandersnatch-trail/>



ASHLAND TRAIN STATION AND ROUNDHOUSE

Completion of the railroad in 1887 transformed Ashland. No longer an isolated community, Ashland had a population boom. Local agriculture, industry and cultural activities all expanded. The roundhouse was Southern Pacific railroad's maintenance and repair hub for Southern Oregon. All the new railroad employees stimulated the creation of homes and business in the new Railroad District.

ASHLAND.OR.US/HISTORIC

SCALE: 0.75" = 1"

BUILDING AND TRAIN RENDERED IN LAYERED, FLAT RELIEF
SOUTHERN PACIFIC LOGO AS "DOMED" RELIEF

GENERAL NOTES:

PROJECT SPECS

24" CAST BRONZE MEDALLION
FOR IN-GROUND INSTALLATION

WHITE AREAS OF ARTWORK WILL BE
RAISED AND LIGHT BRONZE COLOR

BLACK AREAS OF ARTWORK WILL BE
RECESSED AND DARK CHOCOLATE
BROWN COLOR

NO:	REVISION/ISSUE	DATE



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CUSTOMER:
CITY OF ASHLAND, OR

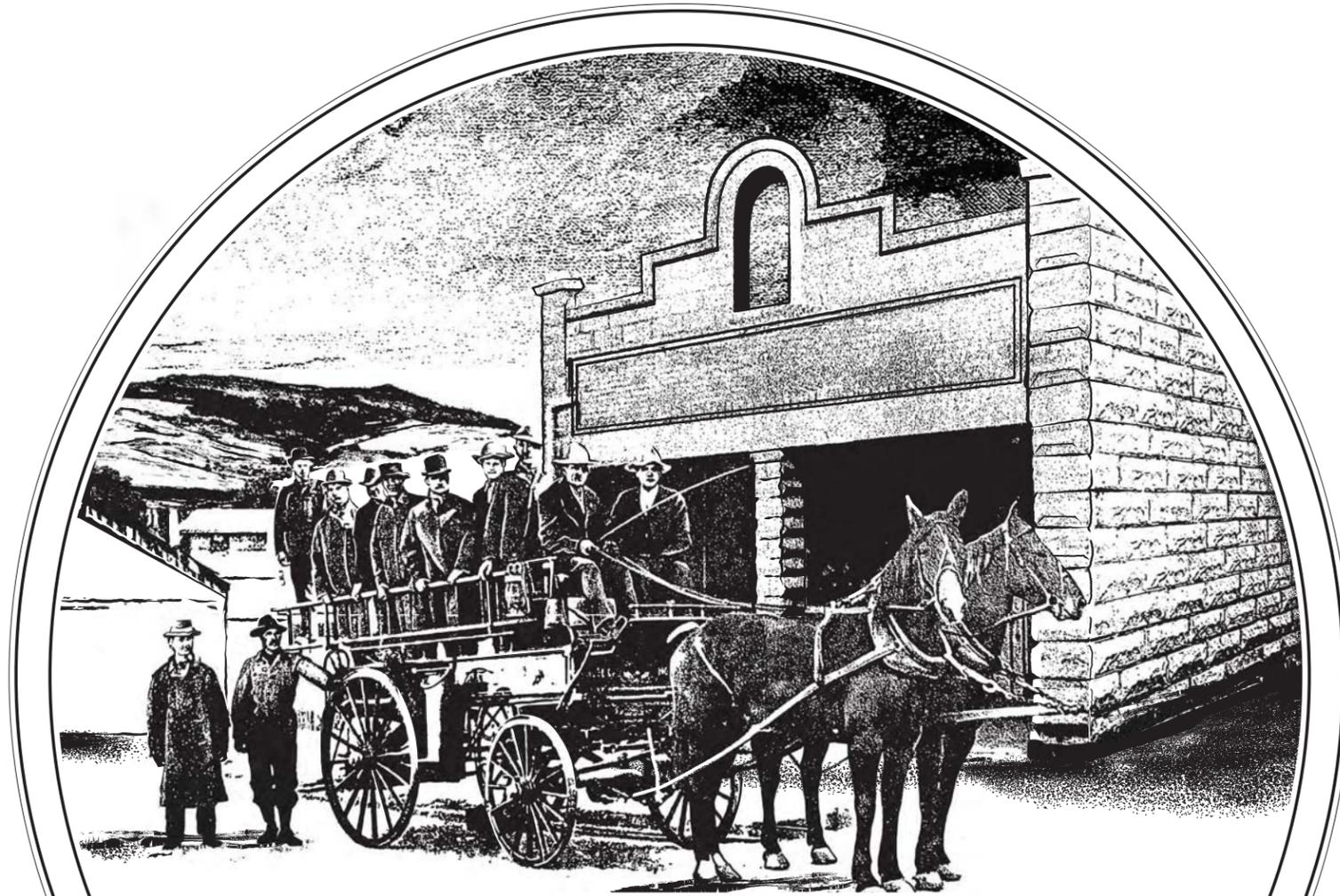
JOB NAME:

MAP MEDALLIONS

DWG NAME:

MAP FINAL ARTWORK

DATE: 03/08/2021	DWG NO: 1
JOB NO:	DRAWN BY: OT



FOURTH STREET FIRE STATION

This 1908 building was the second fire station in Ashland, built to serve the bustling new Railroad District. For the first five years, each time there was a fire, the firemen had to borrow horses from the stable next door to pull the fire wagon. The building also held a jail space, and you can still see the original jail cell window on the alley side of the building.

The old gas pump was installed in 1920, a few years after Ashland bought its first gasoline powered fire truck. From 1935 to 1976 the building was Archie Haskins' garage.

ASHLAND.OR.US/HISTORIC

SCALE: 0.75" = 1"

FLAT RELIEF

GENERAL NOTES:

PROJECT SPECS

24" CAST BRONZE MEDALLION
FOR IN-GROUND INSTALLATION

WHITE AREAS OF ARTWORK WILL BE
RAISED AND LIGHT BRONZE COLOR

BLACK AREAS OF ARTWORK WILL BE
RECESSED AND DARK CHOCOLATE
BROWN COLOR

NO:	REVISION/ISSUE	DATE


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CUSTOMER:
CITY OF ASHLAND, OR

JOB NAME:

MAP MEDALLIONS

DWG NAME:

MAP FINAL ARTWORK

DATE:	DWG NO:
03/08/2021	3
JOB NO:	DRAWN BY:
	OT



Sammy, Family friend, Jennie

Mr. Wong, Jennie, and Mrs. Wong

ASHLAND'S CHINATOWN

The Ashland Chinese community was active in railroad work and mining, with only the Wah Chung (Mr. Wong) family fully participating in the wider Ashland community. Mr. Wong's family had their home and Chinese grocery store here at the corner of A Street and 2nd Street, which was the center of Ashland's small Chinatown. In addition to his primary job as Southern Pacific railroad's local labor contractor for 42 years, Mr. Wong owned rental property, a restaurant, and a Chinese laundry.

ASHLAND.OR.US/HISTORIC

*MEDALLION CREATED AS A LAYERED RELIEF
WITH PICTURES IN PHOTO-RENDERED RELIEF*

SCALE: 0.75" = 1"

GENERAL NOTES:

PROJECT SPECS

24" CAST BRONZE MEDALLION
FOR IN-GROUND INSTALLATION

WHITE AREAS OF ARTWORK WILL BE
RAISED AND LIGHT BRONZE COLOR

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CUSTOMER:
CITY OF ASHLAND, OR

JOB NAME:

MAP MEDALLIONS

DWG NAME:
MAP FINAL ARTWORK

DATE: 03/08/2021	DWG NO: 4
JOB NO:	DRAWN BY: OT

Memo

March 10, 2021

To: City of Ashland Public Art Commission
From: Railroad District Hub Artwork Selection Panel
CC: Selection Panelists

The Selection Panel is please to recommend to the Public Art Commission the concept *Golden Opportunity* by Jennifer Corio and David Frei for installation at Railroad Park.

Motion #1 by Mike Gardiner and second by Bruce Bayard.

Move to recommend to the Public Art Commission the concept *Golden Opportunity* for installation at Railroad Park.

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion #2 by Bruce Bayard and second by Mike Gardiner

Move to recommend the Public Art Commission collaborate with the artist to address the following concerns:

1) The panel asks the artist that there be a strong color contrast between the spike and the circle.

2) The font on the front of the spike bears too strong resemblance to the City of Ashland logo and the panel asks for a change perhaps all caps of the same size?

The logo for the City of Ashland, featuring the words "CITY OF" in a smaller, all-caps serif font above the word "ASHLAND" in a larger, all-caps serif font.

3) The panel prefers the backside of the spike include the Chinese characters. However, the panelists would like the artist to somehow include the English translation of the characters ("Thank You" and "I Am Sorry"). If space does not permit those additional words perhaps the artist could shorten the sentence about "in honor of...?"

The motion passed unanimously.

We look forward to the PAC sending our unanimous decision to the Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission and to the City Council for their final approval of the fabrication and installation of *Golden Opportunity*. We eagerly await the installation and dedication of the piece.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate.