

Minutes of the meeting

Present: Edna Southard, Vice-Chair; Robert Benson, Recording Secretary; Stefanie Hilles, Carole Katz, Norm Krumpe ; Excused: Steve Sullivan, Chair

1. The virtual meeting of the Public Arts Commission of Oxford (PACO) was **called to order by Vice-Chair Edna Southard at 4:38PM.**

2. The **Agenda** was approved

3. The **Minutes** of the December 8, 2020 PACO virtual meeting were approved.

4. New Business

A. Discussion – Rick Momeyer’s offer

After some discussion, PACO members agreed that it was not possible for us to accept Mr. Momeyer’s offer to place a sculpture on city property. However, PACO members agreed that they found the work worthwhile and that it would be reasonable for us to offer to support Mr. Momeyer in finding an appropriate venue and offering our endorsement of his work.

The only exterior site that was suggested as an alternative was the internal open space behind the commercial block of Stewart Square. However, this would be a location on private property.

Members felt that the most suitable environment would be the interior of a public or commercial building. Two sites that were suggested were: (1) the lobby of Lane Public Library; and (2) the lobby of McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital.

Secretary Benson agreed to write a letter informing Mr. Momeyer of our discussion and counter-offer. He agreed to circulate the letter to PACO members for approval before sending. A copy will be attached to these minutes for documentation.

B. Discussion – the article sent out to members by Carole Katz

This article described an environmentally interactive paint that could be used for murals on public buildings. Discussion was postponed until a project arose that might involve painting on the exterior of a building.

C. Discussion – Budget Creation with Jessica Greene’s Office

A meeting between Waverly Dooling, Steve Sullivan, and Bob Benson could not be arranged due to scheduling conflicts. This meeting was to discuss the space behind the Sigma Chi Building on the NW corner of East Park uptown. Bob Benson remarked that he was concerned that plans for this area should be based on professional advice (perhaps pro bono) from a professional landscape architect.

The discussion led to a secondary question by Joe Prescher about the status of Ella Cope's mural and whether ownership had been legally transferred to the City. It was agreed that Edna Southard would look into this before we get too far into the plans for relocating it to the back of the Sigma Chi Building.

D. Discussion – Commemoration of Lynchings in Oxford

Vice-Chair Edna Southard, who is also Council representative to HAPC stated that the creation and placement of monument in the form of a bronze plaque was not a PACO issue. The Committee on Equal Justice is working on this, Anthony James approached HAPC for support of this; and HAPC members are in favor of it.

On the other hand, the updated map of historic sites will include current and potential art sites, for which City Planner Sam Perry is enthusiastic.

Norm Krumpe suggested that his students could develop software for self-guided tours of historic and art sites in Oxford. It was suggested that this is a good idea, so long as the software can be updated in the future, after the students who develop it have graduated.

5. Old Business

A. Status – Police Department Bike Rack

Stefanie Hilles received an e-mail response from Mike Dreisbach, approving the project. Stefanie noted that we need drawings in order to get HAPC approval of the project.

In order to put out a call for designs, Stefanie needs a clear statement about the amount of the artist fee. Stefanie has already created a draft of the call that is located on the PACO Google Drive. Edna said that the draft should be reviewed by City Manager Doug Elliott.

Discussion ensued about where the call will be put out and how it will be advertised. Joe Prescher suggested that we leave the call open until a design has been selected. This will give us more flexibility to get a good design. The wording "Submissions accepted until the commission is awarded" should be added to the call document.

B. Update of Plan Draft

Joe Prescher said that he would produce this plan within the next 20 – 60 days.

C. Mission and Vision Statements

By the end of the month, we should edit and finish these documents. Comments and edits should be found and done in the PACO Google Docs folder.

PACO will vote on these documents at the February meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was **adjourned at 5:43PM**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Benson, Recording Secretary