



City of Ann Arbor
Formal Minutes - Draft
Ann Arbor Public Art Commission

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
[http://a2gov.legistar.com/
Calendar.aspx](http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx)

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

5:30 PM

Electronic Meeting

This meeting will not be broadcast live by CTN Cable Channel 16.

To speak at public comment call: 888 788 0099 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free)
Enter Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 824 851 4892

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://a2gov.zoom.us/j/824851>

ROLL CALL

Present: 11 - John Kotarski, David Esau, Allison Buck, Venita Harrison, Debra Mexicotte, Travis Radina, Peggy Wier-Leonard, Sophie Grillet, Sarah Fuller, Wasentha Young, and Craig Hupy

Absent: 1 - Jonah Copi

WELCOME!

Councilmember Radina shared brief background of his experience and current desire to work closely with the commission toward future opportunities to enhance the mission and goal of the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by- Commissioner Esau seconded by Commissioner Kotarski to Approve the December 2020 agenda. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

[20-1870](#) Ann Arbor Public Art Commission Meeting Minutes - October 2020

Attachments: AAPAC Meeting Minutes - October 2020.pdf, AAPAC bylaws rev 10-7-20-redline (002).pdf

Moved by- Commissioner Mexicotte seconded by Commissioner Wier-Leonard to Approve the October 2020 meeting minutes. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

PRESENTATION & WORKGROUP DISCUSSION

Presentation

Melissa Gumenick, Associate Director of Business Development at Oxford Properties facilitated the installation of a brand-new mural in downtown Ann Arbor in the State Street District – steps from the Michigan Theater, Nickels Arcade, and the University of Michigan campus by local Artist Mathew Sharum. Mathews' recent mural installment on the back exterior of Potbelly Sandwich Shop on State Street represents a "new art take on the convergence of university life and the year-round culture of Ann Arbor".

Details can be found at: <https://oxfordcompanies.com/blog/a-brand-new-mural-is-generating-buzz-on-oxford-building-in-ann-arbor/>

Discussion on future partnership with Oxford Properties and local business owners to promote and invest in future mural, art projects on the southside (S State, Eisenhower, Concord Plaza) of the City. Desire for AAPAC commissioner to become a partner with the planning group to share ideas on possible upcoming projects, selection process, etc.

Work Group Discussion

•Commissioner Grillet proposes that AAPAC send a welcome message to the new Ypsilanti Public Arts Commission.

RESOLVED; *Staff to draft a resolution for Mayor Taylors' consideration and approval.*

•Commissioner Grillet proposes that AAPAC change name to "Ann Arbor Public Arts Commission."

RESOLVED; *Art Commissioners deem the term "art" as all inclusion of all art forms, therefore; no need for a name change.*

•Commissioner Young is a member of Mosaic Artists of Michigan (MAM). Ski Szyniszewski, president and members of MAM have an interest in applying mosaic art throughout the city. From start to finish – installations (wall and ground), fine art, free-standing structures – MAM professional achievements has been recognized in the local, national,

and international in both private and juried art communities. Ms. Young seeks AAPAC feedback from commission re possibilities and collaborations with AAPAC.

RESOLVED; AAPAC is delighted to support the efforts of Mosaic Artists of Michigan (MAM). Commissioner Young will share input on processes for art selection, placement, etc. along with working with AAPAC Special Projects and/or Art Placement work groups for a more detailed plan moving forward.

Work Group Updates

Business Owners and Developers (John Kotarski and David Esau)

- Development of Pinterest board on AAPAC webpage to further showcase art
- Design Review Board liaison shares that there is a need to appeal art plans, and ideas throughout the entire City not just within the DDA District
- Ideas on plans for William and Main rotating sculpture garden
- Goal to work with Oxford Properties on art placement in the Southern corridor of the City

Capital Improvement Projects

- Review new plan which will be available in early January

Communications and Art Placement

- Use of Pinterest page or other social media platforms to promote public art
- Partnership with Destination Ann Arbor (tourism) on digital, email and social media outlets
- Commission will soon have full responsibility of the Historical Markers; add to public art tour, maintenance list, gather history, etc.

Fundraising

- Execute plan for AAACF endowment fund interest use
- Avenues to accept donations via fund
- City Council line item request and planned usage for the future
- Additional of Councilmember Radina as a member

Leadership Forum

- Advocates for membership, community and networks opportunities within the community
- Prepare, review and update list of new commissioners

- COVID pandemic has slowed work
- Create small groups talks, educational invitations with the community to discuss art within the city – set dates, invite public, desire to set dates and have 4-5 assemblies by the end of the year

Nominating and Membership

- Ideas for greater recruitment efforts and discussion re reinstating Mary Thiefels to an upcoming vacancy

Policy and Governance

- Review By-laws re possibility of increasing membership

Special Projects

- Current project includes revitalizing of the Golden Paintbrush Award for April 2021 deployment to community. With custom tile awarded to winners – development of a timeline is needed. Establish/elect judges
- Wall of past Mayors needs further conversation with Mayor Taylor for more direction and ideas on design and how to move forward – diversity and inclusion are key. Possible project for Spring - could be challenging. Design unclear – plexiglass with the ability to rotate to better promote the “faces” of Ann Arbor

Youth Outreach

- Successful collaboration with City Clerk on the “I Voted” contest
- Desire to continue to engage youth involvement in programs, projects and outreach. Special attention to draw-in and energize the 25 and under group.
- Addition of a youth liaison to the commission

AAACF - ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Discussion on development of a disbursement and use plan for endowment interest including opportunities for individuals to contribute to the endowment in the future. Review and plan for future grants opportunities within the coming year.

Presented

VIRTUAL WORKING BINDERS

Craig had a discussion with Darren McKinnon re First Martin exploration and feasibility of installing a decorative arch entryway to the berm over the walkway near Depot Street.

Allen Creek Berm Project; Reminder to discuss with project manager for an update on how best to move forward – selection process, call for art, etc.

City Council Policy Agenda Committee - Reminder that planning process for the FY22 Policy Agenda kicking off, the City Council Policy Agenda Committee is required to identify items from boards and commissions to help prioritize initiatives. Please send any responses from the boards, commissions, or committees you work with directly to me no later than February 1st, 2021 for consideration.

Presented

COMMISSIONER STATUS UPDATE

Discussion and review of upcoming AAPAC term limits with a request from Chair Buck to hear from those commissioners seeking to end their service at the end of current term. Nominating and Membership work group will coordinate efforts with the Mayors' office to fill upcoming vacancies.

•Debra Mexicotte, Office/Role Vice Chair

1st Term

Jun 01, 2018 to May 31, 2021

•John Kotarski

1st Term

Jan 09, 2012 to May 31, 2021

•Sarah A Fuller

1st Term

Jul 06, 2020 to May 31, 2021

Presented

STAFF GOALS/UPDATES

Presented

UPCOMING REPORTING DEADLINES

Staff will review current ordinance. Requires a plan by Feb 1 and a detailed report 60 days after the end of each fiscal year.

(Ord. No. 47-07, § 2, 11-5-07; Ord. No. 13-07, § 8, 6-3-13)

1:838. - Oversight body.

(1) The oversight body shall be the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission as established by Section 1:238 of Chapter 8.

(2) The oversight body shall:

(A) Develop guidelines, subject to the approval of City Council, to implement the provisions of this chapter, including procedures for soliciting and selecting public art and for determining suitable locations for public art;

(B) By February 1 of each year, submit to City Council a plan detailing potential projects and desirable goals to be pursued in the next fiscal year, including enhanced projects and any proposed expenditure of donated, grant, or other funds. The plan shall also include a recommendation as to which projects from the current Capital Improvements Plan are appropriate for designation as enhanced projects;

(C) Work with city staff to determine which capital improvement projects are appropriate for designation as an enhanced project and what type and amount of public art may be appropriate for such projects;

(D) Make recommendations, subject to the approval of the City Administrator, regarding disbursement of public art funds to acquire, produce, install, maintain, alter, relocate or remove public art;

(E) Raise funds above and beyond the funds for public art that are included as part of an enhanced project, interact with donors of funds or art works on behalf of the city, and foster public/private partnerships to support public art. Mechanisms for fund raising may include but are not limited to

crowdfunding, grants, and gifts from corporations, foundations, and individuals;

(F) Promote awareness of public art;

(G) Present an annual report to City Council within 60 days after the end of each fiscal year

containing:

(i) A report on the status of all public art incorporated into or funded by capital improvement

projects in progress or completed during the preceding fiscal year;

(ii) A maintenance report on each work of public art presently under city management detailing

maintenance costs for the preceding fiscal year, anticipated maintenance costs for the next

fiscal year, and any significant future maintenance concerns, including prioritized

recommendations for the maintenance, repair or renovation of particular works;

(iii) A review of the city's public art with regard to the purposes stated in this chapter;

(iv) A report on the oversight body's efforts to promote awareness of public art;

(v) A report on donations of art and where such art was placed;

ADJOURN

8:30pm