



# City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

## Meeting Minutes Ann Arbor Public Art Commission

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Wednesday, March 28, 2012

4:30 PM

City Hall - Basement Conf Rm A

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### CALL TO ORDER

4:33pm

### ROLL CALL

*Members present: M Chamberlin, W Simbuerger, B Miller T Reid & C Rizzolo-Brown  
Members absent: C Gendron, T Derezinski, J Kotarski & M Winborne  
Others: Aaron Seagraves, Public Art Administrator; Mary Morgan, Ann Arbor Chronicle;  
Jack C. Urban, Edward Weiss, Tom Partridge*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Motion by T Reid, seconded by B Miller.*

**Approved**

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Motion by B Miller, seconded by C Rizzolo-Brown.  
W Simbuerger requested "Dreiseitl plaque" added as a New Business item to the agenda.*

**Approved with changes**

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Bob Weise, incensed by the public comment of public art  
Jack C Urban, Kalamazoo County Public Art Committee, attending to learn how we function*

### REPORT FROM CHAIR

*No report*

### REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATOR, COMMITTEES & PROJECT REPORTS

*Administrator gave an update on upcoming dates and projects. Reported:*

- The Golden Paintbrush Award nominations are open to the public and are due on April 13th*
- Justice Center public art, Radius, by Ed Carpenter, contract will be at City Council April 2nd*
- Allmendinger Park mural contract was under review. Administrator was to meet with Public Services Manager to discuss the change in scope for the project and will report back to the Commission at the next meeting. The Task Force accepted it*

because of the community approach and the community participation, the change in project scope expand the participation idea into schools and the program would ask students questions about community and their responses would be incorporated into the mural.

- Mural Program Task Force met and will plan on drafting a SOQ asking for muralist qualifications
- Stadium Bridges RFP under legal review
- Kingsley and First rain garden Task Force will meet in April. The Commission had questions concerning Task Force groups and wanted to consider how the Commission established Task Forces for future projects.
- The PR Committee is developing an email list and will work on issuing a quarterly newsletter

12-0462

**Attachments:** AAPAC Minutes - Jan Feb 2012.pdf, March Committee Reports.pdf, Argo Cascades.pdf, Annual Plan13 AAPAC.pdf

## REGULAR BUSINESS

### *East Stadium Bridges*

W Simbuerger, Commission member on the Stadium Bridges Task Force, introduced the conversation shared between her and B Miller, also a Commission member on the Stadium Bridges Task Force, regarding the amount of funding for the project. The Commission discussed the proposed public art project and the locations listed in the RFP. The process of picking the locations and the decisions regarding those locations was explained by B Miller and W Simbuerger. The project was described by the Task Force members as an opportunity to create a landmark at the bridge location. The Commission reviewed the balance pooled in the Street funds and examined what would be left at the recommended level of funding. The Public Art Administrator listed some of the future projects that might use the Street-Art in Public Places balance for funding. B Miller indicated that the Task Force considered what the budget was able to accommodate for a large project and still reserve money for other projects, and the suggested amount was arrived at by a conversation within the Task Force—funding for upcoming projects were considerations. The impact value and the economic value at this location was regarded as being highly valued. C Rizzolo-Brown discussed the contingency amounts and recommended that the project have a contingency—10% was recommended as a contingency.

Motion made by B Miller to approve a project budget of \$400,000 for the East Stadium Bridges project, seconded by T Reid.

C Rizzolo-Brown commented that that amount was about a third of the total current balance of the money that Art in Public Places has available and asked if it was appropriate to fund 1/3 of the unencumbered balance. The Commission discussed the FY 13 revenue and the amount that would be allocated to Art in Public Places-Street fund. The Public Art Administrator informed the Commission that the estimated amount of Fiscal Year 13 for public art for the Street fund would be about \$109,000. The Commission reexamined the fund balance and factored in possible projects and the possible revenue for the upcoming fiscal year. The Commission continued the discussion about the locations designated for the project in the draft of the RFP and how the Task Force arrived at the locations. The RFP locations were presented and discussed. The new additions resulting from the construction project were talked about, such as the pedestrian stairs.

**MOTION:** To approve project budget of \$400,000 for the East Stadium Bridges public art project. Approved unanimously.

*Argo Cascades Project*

An overview of the project was briefly given discussed. The Commission requested the amount of funding the Task Force had discussed. The Public Art Administrator indicated that the Task Force had not discussed a recommendation for a funding amount. The background of the project was reviewed: it had been approved by the Commission as a project "to explore" along with a project along the river at Gallup Park Livery, however the Gallup Park Livery project timeline was pushed forward to a future date. The Commission asked more question of the Public Art Administrator about the different locations at Argo being considered. A recommendation was made to table the approval of the project and the approval of a budget amount to the next meeting. A clearer concept of the purpose of the project was requested of the Task Force.

MOTION: To table the approval of the project and the budget. Carried unanimously.

*Annual Plan for FY13*

The Commission considered the current draft of the Annual Plan for approval. Particular items of the plan were considered during the discussion at the meeting:

- The date to finish a master plan and if updates to council should be included, or a separate action
- Discussion of which projects should be listed in the plan as "Ongoing Projects" and which were "New"
- DIA project: B Miller suggested a Task Force be appointed to it and offered the treatment of it as a "New Project" listing

Discussion then moved on to the Master Plan and if future projects should be reserved for consideration during the planning for a master plan and the relationship between the content/format of the Master Plan and the content of the Annual Plan:

- W Simbuerger asked that the categories within the Master Plan needed to be considered before allocation of Art in Public Places funds to the Future Public Art Project categories listed in the draft of the Annual Plan considered at meeting
- T Reid asked if the Future Public Art Projects listed should be those that would be in the Master Plan
- The Commission discussed the format of the Annual Plan and if the allocation of funding should be indicated in the Annual Plan, or should the Annual Plan be a way to identify potential projects
- C Rizzolo-Brown offered that the items listed in the Future Public Art Projects would require stronger public input and the creation of a Task Force to select future projects that fall under those items
- W Simbuerger wanted to examine the categories and items on the list again
- Project ideas that had been mentioned as possible future projects, like street stamping and North Main street, were brought up, and they were considered how they would fall under the Future Public Art Project categories as listed

The format of the Annual Plan was reconsidered and T Reid suggested reexamining the organization of the Annual Plan draft. T Reid suggested adding the funding allocation and programming of the budget as an objective for the year. C Rizzolo-Brown offered that programming the balance of the Art in Public Places funding as percentages per category would tie the Commission to relevant projects. A new draft of the Annual Plan was considered. M Chamberlin distributed an updated draft that included the suggestions for Annual Plan categories that were discussed at the Annual Planning meeting. The new draft of the Annual Plan listed objectives, one was to identify and prioritize new projects, and the allocation of pooled funding to the

categories of community, Quadrants, and underserved communities. A future project along North Main Street was questioned using the new language and there was talk about whether, or not, the project would apply under the new criteria. C Rizzolo-Brown encouraged the Commissioners to consider broader language when selecting the criteria and when drafting the process for selecting the criteria. A suggestion was made to change the criteria and to replace the objective under discussion with: "to identify and prioritize new projects based on location, type of projects and community input."

M Chamberlin encouraged the Commission to consider objectives that are measurable and time delimited. The new draft of the Annual Plan that was distributed at the meeting and was the basis for continued discussion around the other objectives listed in the draft:

- One objective listed was collaboration with other organizations. B Miller indicated he would like to collaborate with other commissions

- Another objective was to finish projects underway and M Chamberlin suggested adding the steps needed to be completed for those projects and listing the completion date. The discussion of this point was particularly emphasized. Discussion of project's timelines included the length of time legal review of documents take.

- The fifth objective included the promotion of education and the operations of the Public Art Commission. There was discussion of the plan to create an effective communications plan to promote awareness of the public art program as a necessity. A deadline of August 1st was established for this objective.

- Integration of the Public Art Administrator with city capital projects was a sub-objective that was discussed and the number of capital projects the city undertakes was considered.

The Commission concluded discussion of the Annual Plan. The Commission agreed that the final draft would be circulated by email for final review and approval before submission to City Council.

#### *Dreiseitl Plaque*

W Simbuerger brought forward a proposal to create and install a sign, or plaque, for the Dreiseitl public art in front of City Hall. The proposal would be an effort to something to help the promotion of the project. There were some questions about the timeline for completion of the project—the Public Art Administrator offered that further tweaking of the water function would be done. W Simbuerger offered that the sign would include a description of how the water process works with the piece. B Miller concurred. The Commission suggested asking the sub-contractors for an explanation of the water system to include in the content of the sign. T Reid suggested that these types of signs should be included with every public art project and the information was important. There was discussion about how to display the information about the water function and if it should be included in a title plaque or if it should be separate from the traditional title plaque displayed with artwork. There was also discussion of if the explanation of the water function should be a permanent sign, or if it would be better included in handouts. M Chamberlin suggested that the Commission make a commitment to label future public art projects and to create plaques for them. The process for selecting the content and creating a design was discussed. It was suggested that the architect/project manager be contacted plan on a location for the sign and to see if they would be interested in designing it. It was offered that the Commission would accept and finalize the content and final design at a future meeting.

The Commission asked the Public Art Administrator to contact the Quinn Evans and ask about the possible location for a sign and to ask if they might be able to design it. It was agreed to create a draft of content for the sign to look over at the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Other items:*

*B Miller offered a new project that would be proposed at a future meeting that incorporates loaned artwork on display at locations in the city. The art would be borrowed from artists. There was some discussion of the process for borrowing art and how it would function. The program would rotate art on loan during a set period of time.*

*M Chamberlin wanted to address the creation of the agenda. She wanted to examine the process of vetting new proposals, setting the priority for the meeting agendas and moving forward with business items. Asked that the Public Art Administrator send a reminder for new business items a week before the meeting.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

6:23pm