



City of Ann Arbor  
Meeting Minutes  
Ann Arbor Public Art Commission

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Wednesday, June 26, 2013

City Hall, Basement Conference Room

4:30PM

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CALL TO ORDER

4:33 pm

ROLL CALL

Members present: M. Winborne- Vice-Chair, M. Chamberlin, J. Kotarski, C. Rizzolo-Brown, B. Miller-Chair & A. Arder.

Members absent: N. Zagar

Others: Aaron Seagraves, Public Art Administrator; Craig Hupy, Public Services Administrator; Mary Morgan; Jeff Hayner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved by M Winborne, seconded by M Chamberlin; On a voice vote, the Chair declared the minutes approved.**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**A motion was made by M Winborne, seconded by A Arder, that the Agenda be approved. Addition of Public Recognition Program item requested by J Kotarski. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hupy said a city staff meeting identified project site Scio Church Rd – West City limit near 94. The project will install a sidewalk and they will need a new fence/railing. Liz Rolla is the City Project Manager. He said the moratorium on spending the future public art funds had expired on and this could be used. Chamberlin offered to work as Commission Champion on with that location.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair said the Commission is working to engage the public in outreach and discussion in order to gain feedback and to educate the public. Public engagement for the Stadium Bridges project has required multiple meetings with City Committees and the Commission had organized presentations.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chamberlin commended Kotarski on the engagement presentations for Stadium Bridge project. She attended the Public Art Network Conference a conference of 90% public art administrators. Said a lot of the projects are initiated by city staff in a number of cities.

Kotarski said the presentations of the Stadium proposals demonstrated that the Commission is available and will be reaching out to the public. The purpose was to

have several points of contact with multiple groups. He said including a project Task Force member in the presentations shapes our perception with the public and the resulting discussion allowed for the explanation of the public art process.

Arder spoke about the creation of a video for the Facebook page and the use of other social media.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Motion to approve the appointment of roles for Commissioners: Community Outreach and Engagement, Commission Member Kotarski; Media Relations, Commission Member Chamberlin. Moved by M Winborne, and seconded by M Chamberlin.**

Commission had a discussion about the roles and what the responsibilities were. They also discussed examining what media the Commission had a capacity to undertake regularly—such as a printed newsletter. Discussion on reviewing each media type to determine what should be used regularly.

**On a voice vote, the motion carried. All were in favor.**

**Motion to approve the creation of Ad Hoc Committee for the redraft of AAPAC's Guidelines. Moved by B Miller, and seconded by C Brown.**

Miller said the Guidelines need revision to reflect the changes to the Ordinance.

Commission discussed if staff could complete the work and if a committee would be necessary. Need for further definition to, for example, "Enhanced Projects" was seen within the Commission's responsibilities. Staff was directed to create an initial revision of the guidelines to reflect the changes. AAPAC would then further revise the Guidelines to include additional definition and direction. Determined a revision of Guidelines could be completed by the Wednesday before next meeting.

**Motion was withdrawn in favor of alternative approach.**

**Motion to approve the creation of an "exploratory" Task Force for a public art project at Arbor Oaks Park to create a project proposal for AAPAC's approval. Task Force will include Commission Member Winborne; Commission Member Zagar; Derek Miller, Community Action Network Deputy Director; David Jones, Board Member of the Community Action Network Southeast Ann Arbor; and members of the neighborhood and the art community to be determined. Moved by J Kotarski, and seconded by C Brown.**

Winborne said there was a meeting with David Jones, Board Member for CAN, the on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Possible project was discussed at the meeting. Result of that meeting was

a request for David to ask for members of the community their interest in serving on the Task Force for the project.

Brown said the Commission had presented to the community several times and said there was a lot of interested youth in art.

**On a voice vote, the motion carried. All were in favor.**

**Motion to approve the creation of an “exploratory” Task Force for a public art project at the new wastewater treatment plant facility to create a project proposal for AAPAC’s approval. Moved by J Kotarski, and seconded by M Chamberlin.**

Kotarski said he met with Craig Hupy regarding a project. He said he understood there may not be much excitement about the location but if it was in fact educational it would be impactful. He said tours of the plant are an ongoing part of the Ann Arbor Public School’s curriculum for elementary school students. He thought we create a piece of art that aesthetically engages the location.

Brown asked about project process and said we looked for community input before deciding on a project in the past, rather than selecting each project that comes to us.

Kotarski said the construction project is underway and the public art can be at the beginning of this process.

Hupy said the project is in construction at this point. He added one of the larger unspent pooled public art funds is in Wastewater projects and art projects must have a nexus to the fund or located at the facilities.

Miller said it connects with funding that we can target and we can effect a change at this point in the design.

Brown said some of the things she’s heard from the public are to create more and smaller art projects and thought she didn’t know if there are any of those types of projects that can be done with these funds.

Kotarski said he understands the charge of the Committee is to explore different ideas and see what can be done there.

**On a voice vote, the motion carried. All were in favor.**

### **Public Recognition Program**

Kotarski said he was tasked at an earlier meeting to explore a lifetime achievement award with Commissioner Brown to develop the outlined ideas. He looked this and included other ways to achieve public art recognition. He said the Achievement could be an event that would celebrate when someone in our community deserves a Lifetime Achievement. They examined alternatives to the Golden Paintbrush Awards as an annual event by recognizing types of public art that can be included, such as

Random Acts of Art—and said these can be given out as we find them. He said another would be a Resolution of Support for a project as a vehicle for our support.

Brown said these would be a message to those recognized that we really appreciate that you are making art in the community and it may be a way to support projects in the community. She said this is a way to give an atta-boy.

**Motion to approve a Lifetime achievement award. Moved by J Kotarski, seconded by C Brown.**

Winborne asked if this was adding more work.

Chamberlin pointed out the Golden Paintbrush includes category for Support of Public Art and the Lifetime Award can be nearly the same. Said our role is recognizing people who make contributions to public art. Added she didn't assume that it was our role to give an award to contributions to the "arts" in general.

Miller said the last Paintbrush awards went to Supporters of the public art. He said the Paintbrush awards are City awards and asked if the current awards are valued within the scope of the Commission.

Winborne said it is our role is to identify projects for funding and thought this moves us away from things we are supposed to do.

Arder asked the goal of these awards.

Brown said they are to attribute credit for, and to give a thank-you for, the creation public artwork.

Kotarski said our Ordinance tasks us to promote public art and he imaged this requires collaboration and he thought we would need other people and groups to help organize these awards. He said if we separate the awards from the Golden awards then we can get more bang for our buck.

The Commission discussed the history of the awards and the possibility of changing the current format.

Arder said we can figure out what our capacity is and think of different ways to make our current awards better. She thought failing to achieve an expand awards may do more harm. She thought it might be more helpful to find a better way to honor the current recipients of the Golden Paint brush.

Miller said he thought the consensus is that we can take what we have and build on the current concept.

Winborne suggested changing the name.

Commission agreed to celebrate the past award winners at a event.

**Motion was withdrawn.**

### **Art Fair information table**

Miller talked about the success of the tables at the Green Fair and at the Artisan's Market.

### **Motion to staff an information table at the Art Fair, if funds are available. Motion by Miller and second by Kotarski.**

Chamberlin said most of the people at the Art Fair are not from town and it is difficult to get people to volunteer. Winborne said he'd like to volunteer. Arder said she'd like to consider doing something that people would like stop and do. Chamberlin said she would like to see if there were funds that could be committed. Discussion on the uncertainty of funds that could be used for the upcoming fiscal year.

Miller said he would like to commit to the Artisan Market once a month instead.

### **Motion was withdrawn.**

## PROJECT REPORTS

Commission asked for the completion of a project calendar that included dates related to all the projects.

### **Jewett Memorial**

Chamberlin said there is \$6,000 donated for the projects and a design with two chairs has been created.

### **Canoe Imagine Art**

Chamberlin said the details of the proposals for donations and a draft for call to artists are being worked on.

### **North Main Task Force**

Public concern about developments along the river. There was also discussion of 721 North Main. Questions about how the development will be safe. Draft will be presented in July.

### **Townie Party**

Discussion of including the design for Kingsley at the booth. They want to photograph and an interactive project.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeff Hayner said he wanted to sit on a meeting and see how the agenda ran. He wondered if the empty Commission seats would be filled and commented on the Guidelines changes based on the ordinance change.

## ADJOURNMENT

6:50 pm

**Motion to adjourn by Winborne, and seconded by Kotarski. All were in favor.**