

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

May 9, 2023

12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 305 SW A Street

Contact skerr@bentonvillear.com to request participation via Zoom.



MINUTES

Members

- 1 Steven Baker ✓
- 2 Grant Cottrell X
- 3 Chad Nicholson ✓
- 4 Kate Schaffer, Vice Chairperson ✓
- 5 Brittany Vernon ✓
- 6 Clint Schaff ✓
- 7 Tom Hoehn, Chairperson ✓

Ex Officio

- Beckie Seba, City Council ✓
- Kalene Griffith, Visit Bentonville ✓*
- Alison Nation, Visit Bentonville ✓*
- Elizabeth Miller, OzArt ✓*
- Cynthi Post-Hunt, Crystal
- Bridges/The Momentary X

Staff

- Shelli Kerr, Comprehensive Planning Manager ✓
- Josh Stacey, Recreation Services Manager ✓
- Kelly Schmidt, Community Events Manager
- David Wright, Parks and Recreation Director X

1. **Call meeting to order.** Tom called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.
2. **Approve minutes – April 11.**
Steven made a motion to approve the April 11 minutes, Clint seconded. All in favor; motion passed 6-0.

PROPOSALS

None Submitted

PLANNING

3. **First Friday Booth – June 2.** Shelli shared the two activations associated with the two Bentonville 150 art projects. Gina Gallina will be onsite to have people help make granny squares. We can also have paper shaped seeds for people to write down a word or short phrase of what they like about Bentonville. The committee agreed to proceed with these ideas. Need to have large photos of the two art proposals. Kalene said they have tents we could use. Clint and Kate shared some of their suggestions. The committee liked the idea of art trading cards and a scavenger hunt to be implemented at a later date.
Action Items: Shelli to get “seeds” and writing utensils. Clint will work on the trading cards. Tom will work on the scavenger hunt.
4. **Upper Cut Installation & Promotion.** Installation still planned for late May. The foundation is in. The Creekside Park opening is June 17 from 10 am to 1 pm. A ribbon cutting and speeches are at 11:00. The committee agreed the art unveiling would follow that. We could hand out color sheets of the piece and provide the seeds if we still need more for the Bentonville 150 Seeds of Tomorrow project.
Action Items: Josh will invite Alvaro to the opening and obtain a large tarp. Tom will provide language for media and promotions.
5. **Roundabout Art Plan.** The artwork needs to have the right scale, meet safety concerns, and possibly be elevated to avoid people crossing the street for photos. The Physics of Being is already planned for inclusion in Creekside Park, so remove that one from consideration. Could do a poll with people who live and work around the roundabouts to get feedback and ideas. Need to establish a rubric for

selection to include scale, limited detail, 360 degrees, a theme or connection between all or a couple to serve as a landmark. Committee agreed to ask for \$120,000 in the 2024 budget for the roundabout project with a goal of three installations averaging \$40,000 each. They also agreed that going out for an RFP is the best approach so past submissions can be calibrated to the scale and other criteria for a roundabout location.

Action Items: Need to add the 150th submittals and Cricket submittals to those being considered.

PROJECT UPDATES

6. **Sesquicentennial Art Installations.** Each art piece is on the City Council agenda tonight for approval.
7. **Corner at Park Springs Park.** Artist plans to be here on May 17 for install.
8. **Landscaping at Osage Prairie Installation.** Update from Amy in parks on the plantings was provided in agenda packet.

Action Items: Shelli will reach out to artist to ask if rusting is intentional to the design.

OTHER BUSINESS

9. June Meeting Agenda.

- Conduct a First Friday evaluation
- Plans for June 17th
- Work on the rubric and theme for the roundabout project

10. Roundtable Discussion.

- Committee was pleased to see the Thaden asphalt art project completed.
- Library and Parks have funds that accept donations. Could consider something similar for public art.
- Tom mentioned the new artwork from OzArt, Happy Lighting, on the parking garage at the Neighborhood Market, and the ability to download an app and control the lights.
- Tom mentions Assembly and Interform which combines art and fashion through the month of June across NWA and at the Momentary, including an immersive pop up experience at Crystal Flats.
- Committee asked about opportunities to connect with the Walmart Campus for public art, such as the parking garages.

Action Items: Shelli will ask finance about the best approach for an account to accept donations for art projects.

11. Adjournment

Brittany made a motion to adjourn; Chad seconded. All in favor; motion passed, 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.