



Public Art Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2024
12:00 PM
Bentonville City Hall

Members

1 Steven Baker ✓ (virtual)
2 Grant Cottrell
3 Chad Nicholson ✓
4 Kate Schaffer, Vice Chairperson ✓ (virtual)
5 Anne Jackson ✓
6 Clint Schaff ✓ (virtual)
7 Tom Hoehn, Chairperson ✓

Ex Officio

Beckie Seba, City Council ✓ (zoom)
Kalene Griffith, Visit Bentonville
Alison Nation, Visit Bentonville
Cynthia Post-Hunt, Crystal Bridges/Momentary
Elizabeth Miller, OzArt ✓
Carlyn Wilder, OzArt ✓

Staff

Shelli Kerr, Comprehensive
Planning Manager ✓
Josh Stacey, Recreation
Services Manager ✓

Guests: Travis Matlock, Bentonville Electric Utility Director; Matthew Meers, Northwest Arkansas Community College.

Call to Order. Tom called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

1. Approve minutes – December 12, 2023

Chad made a motion to approve the December 12, 2023, minutes, Clint seconded. All in favor; motion passed 6-0.

2. Welcome New Member: Anne Jackson. Tom introduced and welcome new member to the committee, Anne Jackson. Other members introduced themselves.

3. Officer Elections.

Kate and Tom said they would be willing to serve again.

Chad nominated Tom for the Chairperson and Kate as Vice Chairperson. For Tom, all in favor; motion passed 6-0. For Kate, all in favor; motion passed 6-0.

II. PROPOSALS

1. Statues for Equality. Shelli reported that Debbie Griffin did present the statue project to the Airport Advisory Board. They have decided not to proceed. The PAAC decided to take no further action on this proposal request.

2. Vasanio “Troy” – Unsolicited Submittal. After discussion, the committee had some questions and did not feel the piece connected with the city or any current efforts.

Chad made a motion to decline this proposal; Kate seconded. All in favor; motion passed 6-0.

III. PLANNED PROJECTS

1. **Water Tower & 8th Roundabout RFP.** Travis Matlock, Director of Bentonville Electric Utility Department, discussed the electric infrastructure in the middle of this roundabout. His team will do locates and measure to determine an area where art can be installed. The light could be relocated, but the costs would be prohibited. The pole is 30' tall with two, 6' arms. Another option is to provide piers for installing artwork. A 6'-8' art piece at a minimum is recommended.

Consider the roundabout under construction at 28th and Maple by Creekside, take a look at the infrastructure there to determine if it could be modified. There will also be a roundabout at Bright Rd. Make efforts to review roundabout plans before being finalized to see how artwork could be incorporated.

Matthew Meers with the art department at Northwest Arkansas Community College discussed their goals to establish a long-term relationship with the city to coordinate and display student artwork. The initial discussion was an annual rotation at this roundabout. The committee is concerned about the logistics and less accessible inside a roundabout.

Spring Park might be a better location for rotating artwork. The school does have a foundation account to pay the students if the city can fund/supply materials. Matthew has created a universal bolt pattern that could be installed on various foundations along the Razorback Greenway. This option may be easier for rotating and accessing artwork. The committee supports an opportunity for a partnership.

Action item: Staff will meet with NWACC prior to the next meeting to further discuss opportunities.

2. **J and John De Shields Roundabout.** There is no issue with utilities at this roundabout. Looking at opportunities to partner with several of the entities in that area that might want to engage in this project.

Action item: Staff will meet with Crystal Bridges team to discuss further.

IV. PROJECT UPDATES

1. **Youth Baseball: Coaches and Players RFP (previously Phillips Park RFP).** The RFP is published. Received one proposal so far. Will do more social media push next week.
2. **Videography Project.** Project is complete and partner logos have been added to the end.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Corner at Park Springs Park Replacement.** The contract for Double Slit Skyline ends in May. After some discussion, the committee wanted to find out if the artist is interested in leaving it on display for another year. Might reach out to Jim Collins, Justin Deister, Ed Pennebaker and NWACC for other opportunities.

Action item: Staff will reach out to artist about keeping Double Slit Skyline for another year.

2. **Maintenance Program.** Shelli asked committee to send ideas about maintenance programs to her for further discussion at the next meeting. She asked for a vote at the next meeting to establish a portion of annual PAAC funds for maintenance.

Action item: Parks staff to summarize what they've done so far regarding maintenance.

3. **Roundtable Discussion.**

- Tom mentioned CACHE meeting with regional municipal arts officials. Tom will share.
- Anne mentioned two artworks that will soon be available. (1) Community Cohesion Project is a mobile mural. Currently outdoors at The Medium in Springdale. ArtsOne is the curator (they don't own it) but the piece is designed to travel across NWA. City cost would be installation only. The piece is 8' tall x 16' wide and comes in four pieces. (2) Also, Gina Gallina's exterior interactive crochet mushroom will be available in the spring. Minimal cost and installation. Needs a flat spot. Less than \$5,000. Like for it to "bloom" in the spring and remove by winter.

4. **February Agenda: Annual Budget Review.** No discussion.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Tom made a motion to adjourn; Chad seconded. All in favor; motion passed, 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.