

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

July 9, 2024

12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 305 SW A Street

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



MINUTES

Members

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

Ex Officio

- Beckie Seba, City Council
- Kalene Griffith, Visit Bentonville
- Alison Nation, Visit Bentonville
- Cynthia Post-Hunt, The Momentary ✓
- Carlyn Wilder, OZ Art ✓

Staff

- Shellie Kerr, Comprehensive Planning Manager ✓
- Josh Stacey, Deputy Director of Parks ✓

Guests: Alejo Benedetti (Crystal Bridges), Hadi Dudley, Tara Clark, Heather Hays (Bentonville Public Library), Grace Underfanger (Visit Bentonville), Greg Hughes (Bentonville Parks and Recreation)

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

Approval of Minutes. – June 11 *

Chad made a motion to approve the June 11, 2024, minutes, Anne seconded. All in favor; motion passed 5-0.

Anne made a motion to move the John DeShields Roundabout and the Library Installation agenda items to the beginning of the agenda. All in favor, motion passed 5-0.

PROJECT PLANNING

- 1. John De Shields Roundabout.** Alejo Benedetti with Crystal Bridges provided an update on their efforts to retain an artist to install artwork in the roundabout at J and John DeShields. The artist is Natasha Bowdoin from Houston, TX who uses a cartoon/botanical aesthetic and partnering with Urban Artists Projects for fabrication. Expect preliminary proposal by mid-August and full proposal with cost estimates by mid-September. Crystal Bridges will cover the costs of the artwork and fabrication and the PAAC would be responsible for site work, which might include creation of shadows with colored concrete. Material would be painted aluminum at a height potentially 15-20'.
- 2. Library Installation for 2025.** Hadi Dudley, executive director for the Bentonville Public Library presented opportunities for public art in both the interior and exterior of the facilities as part of the library expansion project. The library is looking to increase programming and education around public art. She indicated that adults are interested in traditional crafts such as sewing, knitting, and painting. The children are pretty open and there's a special craft room just for children. Anne asked them to think about the story the library wants to tell. Hadi suggested their mission which is "engaging the community in education, discovery and literacy for a lifetime" and words like explore, learn, grow and that "third space" for people to hang out.

Josh pointed out that there are opportunities to connect the library with other projects – such as eventual city hall expansion, Quilt of Parks and the promenade.

PROPOSALS

- 3. Red Ball Project.** Shelli discussed the regional CACHE project “Red Ball” and shared the proposed location. Committee members pointed out that the OzArt illustrations on the alley walls may be impacted. Shelli will connect Carlyn with CACHE and the artist and request OzArt be on site during installation.

Chad made a motion to approve the artwork at the designated location with the condition that they coordinate with OzArt for the installation to maintain the integrity of the existing artwork, Anne seconded. All in favor, motion passed 6-0.

PROJECT PLANNING

The committee agreed to postpone detailed discussion of items 4 and 5 below in order to prioritize the budget discussion.

- 4. Woodworking Project/Storm Commemoration.** See budget discussion.

- 5. Sewer Mains at Town Branch.** Postponed to August.

- 6. 2025 Budget Discussion.** Shelli shared the 2024 budget and allocations along with a proposed 2025 budget. The committee wanted to see the following changes to the proposed budget:

- Remove the condition assessment from 2025 and proceed this year from the remaining \$25,000 PAAC budget.
- Add a separate project for the Storm Material Utilization and Commemorative Project in the amount of \$100,000.

UPDATES

- 7. Water Tower & 8th Roundabout: *Singing Kites*.** The artists have the agreement and are still working through a couple items.

- 8. RFP: Youth Baseball.** No update.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 9. Roundtable Discussion.** No discussion.

- 10. Next Meeting:** August 13

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.