

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

April 22, 2025

12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 305 SW A Street

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



MINUTES

Attendance

Member	Attendance	Ex Officio	Attendance
1 Elizabeth Miller	Virtual	Beckie Seba, City Council	In person
2 Allan Paulose	Virtual	Kalene Griffith, Visit Bentonville	Absent
3 Chad Nicholson, Chairperson	In person	Alison Nation, Visit Bentonville	In person
4 Kate Schaffer	In person	Cynthia Post Hunt, Crystal Bridges/The Momentary	Absent
5 Anne Jackson, Vice Chairperson	Virtual	Melisa Durkee, OZ Art	Absent
6 Clint Schaff	In person		
7 Tom Hoehn	In person	Staff	
		Shelli Kerr, Comprehensive Planning Manager	In person
		Josh Stacey, Deputy Director of Parks	In person

CALL TO ORDER Chairperson Nicholson called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Approval of Minutes – March 25, 2025

Clint made a motion to approve the minutes for March 25, 2025. Tom seconded. All in favor, motion passed 6-0 (Allan had not yet joined online).

2. Financial Report. Shelli shared the revised income and planned expenses. We have an annual budget of \$25,000, an inventory management software cost of \$1,200, plus the \$1,000 Red Ball Donation. We have \$96,000 carried over from last year for the two roundabout projects. Additionally, good news: FEMA has awarded 80% of the repair costs for damage to Monarch and Dandelion.

Expenses: \$500 allotted for the sewer main project, and the inventory software cost is a little higher than anticipated at \$2,000. Then we have the allotments for the roundabout projects, recommending approximately \$50,000 to go toward repairs per the condition assessment. A memo has been prepared making a recommendation to maintain four pieces this year and budget for the remaining pieces in 2026.

Either now or during the condition assessment discussion, she asked for a set amount to go toward maintenance and repairs.

OLD BUSINESS

3. Thaden School. Shelli received a call from Sam Slaton yesterday. They have decided to postpone their submittal until the May meeting. They have quite a bit going on right now with the end of school and will be able to focus on this project once school ends. They have been working with the library on the design and have spoken with the fire and street departments about the bollards.

4. Final Condition Assessment. The committee requested to meet with the artist about the proposed deaccession of artworks. Josh mentioned that Memorial Park is slated for renovation, and the skate park and basketball court may be renovated or relocated.

Elizabeth made a motion to set aside up to \$50,412 to repair and maintain artwork for this year. Tom seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

5. **The PAAC Race.** Allan has been reaching out and meeting with other organizations. Anne suggests combining with another event or race with better attendance if it's piggybacked on something else. Anne recommends planning for 2026 allowing plenty of time to finalize.
6. **Bus Shelter/Storm Wood Repurpose.** No update.

NEW BUSINESS

7. **Extension of Tim Ernst Photography in City Hall.** The agreement with OZArt for the two Tim Ernst photos on display in City Hall expires May 1. Melissa reached out letting me know they are open to extending that agreement if we want to. Would need a motion and vote on extending and for what amount of time.

Tom made a motion to extend the agreement for up to one more year at no cost to the city. Anne seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

8. **Promotion of Physics of Being (HERE).** The committee suggested adding a perimeter to keep people from climbing. Concerned about the area under the arrow and people getting in there. Suggested adding reflective tape to the mounts so people don't trip. Working on the informational sign and a Do Not Climb sign. Planning and Parks will get together with the new communications manager to promote the piece. There was also discussion about having monthly public art social posts.

CURRENT PROJECTS

9. **J and John DeShields Roundabout.** Crystal Bridges is making progress and intends to present to their art review committee in the next month. They expect to have more details to share in May.
10. **Water Tower Rd Roundabout Next Steps.** The committee reviewed the two revised designs and costs for *Megafauna* and *Today*, deciding that neither is a good fit for the roundabout, but maybe for other locations. The committee asked staff to prepare a map of roundabouts with dimensions for discussion in May. Also suggested bringing NWACC into the conversation for this location.
11. **Fish of Bentonville.** Planning to install once school finishes. Anne is setting up the student with a local muralist to help guide the installation.

OTHER BUSINESS

12. Announcements.

- Trail Pilot App has an art ride narrated by Tom.
- Bike Fest is the end of May, with an art ride at Compton Gardens the day before.
- Artwalk with filmmakers during BFF.

ADJOURNMENT

Clint made a motion to adjourn. Tom seconded. All in favor, motion passed 6-0 (Elizabeth left prior to the vote).

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.