

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

September 30, 2025

12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 305 SW A Street

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

THE CITY OF BENTONVILLE



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

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

Guests – Bonnie Bridges, Michael McCranie

1. **Call to Order** – Anne called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm.

2. **Welcome New Member** – Sara Asplund

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Elizabeth made a motion to approve the August 26, 2025, minutes. Clint seconded. All in favor, motion passed 5-0.

4. **Election of Chairperson**

Elizabeth made a motion to table the election to the next meeting. Clint seconded. All in favor, motion passed 5-0.

PROPOSALS - None

OLD BUSINESS

5. **Public Art Program Improvements**

Shelli identified the changes made from the initial draft of the code amendment and public art policy. The committee provided the following feedback.

Code Amendments:

- *2-553 Membership:* Correct spelling of OZ Art NWA.
- *2-551 Bentonville Square:* Should this be an exemption from the regulations instead of prohibiting artwork – since the city doesn't own it but maintains it?
- *Generally:* Where applicable, include artist or representative.

Policy

- *3.A.3 Collection Development Purpose:* Change “values” to “standards.”
- *3.B.4 Donations:*
 - Provide additional details on how to accept monetary donations.
 - Is a piece like All Bikers Welcome considered a donation and should be treated as such?
 - In the agreement, clarify that the city owns it and what can and cannot be done with the artwork or money.
 - How to handle if A&P funds a piece – is that also a donation?

- *3.D.2 Compliance Check:* Even if a proposal doesn't pass the compliance check, the committee would like to see the proposal as a courtesy.
- *3.E.2 Context:* Concerns that this is limiting and should be related to the context to the display site.
- *3.E.3 Durability and Maintenance:* This needs to include evaluation of the life span and the impact on the city's future budget.
- *4.G Alteration of Approved Design:* Need specifics on what would be considered a significant change that warrants it going back through the review process for an amendment. Maybe a percentage change.
- *4.K Signage:* Questioned if there is any issue of having the lender logo on the sign or stand. As a lender or donor, Shelli stated there is no issue with the sign regulations.
- *6.E Life Span of the Art:* Agreement should include intended lifespan, maintenance required to meet that life span and separate requirements for interior vs exterior.
- *7.E Deaccession:*
 - Can an artist repurpose their artwork.
 - Do we have the authority to destroy.
 - What if someone takes it out of a landfill and tries to sell.
 - Need clarification on the city's disposal policies.
 - Does the artist want to make the repairs to extend the life span?
- *8 Reconsideration:*
 - Responsibility for covering costs associated with a reconsideration should be clearly explained within the agreement.
 - Often murals are just painted over and the costs for that need to be identified in the agreement – usually the city would pay for mural removal.

NEW BUSINESS - None

PROJECT UPDATES

6. Proposals

Shelli stated that the Community Center Painting and the Old Tree Sculpture are on hold until the policy is adopted.

7. Installations

- Sewer Main – *Fish of Bentonville* – Artist is working on this.
- J and John DeShields Roundabout – Moving forward with getting site details approved.
- *Thaden School Urban Studies Library Mural* - No action.
- *Trout Crosswalk Mural* – No action.

OTHER BUSINESS

8. Public Art 101 Workshop – Allan has shared information about a workshop he is organizing.

ADJOURNMENT

Clint made a motion to adjourn. Elizabeth seconded. All in favor, motion passed 4-0. (Allan had left the meeting.)

Meeting adjourned at 1:27 pm.