

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

October 28, 2025

12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 305 SW A Street

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



MINUTES

Member	Attendance	Ex Officio	Attendance
1 Elizabeth Miller	In person	Beckie Seba, City Council	In person
2 Allan Paulose	In person	Kalene Griffith, Visit Bentonville	Absent
3 Sarah Asplund	In person	Alison Nation, Visit Bentonville	Virtual
4 Kate Schaffer	In person	Cynthia Post Hunt, Crystal Bridges/The Momentary	Virtual
5 Anne Jackson, Vice Chairperson	In person	Melisa Durkee, OZ Art	Virtual
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

1. **Call to Order** - Anne Jackson called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

Elizabeth made a motion to approve the September 30, 2025, minutes. Kate seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

3. Election of Chairperson

Tom made a motion to elect Anne Jackson for Chairperson. Clint seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

Allan made a motion to elect Tom Hoehn for Vice Chairperson. Elizabeth seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

4. December Meeting

The December Meeting falls on Dec. 22.

Elizabeth made a motion to move the December 22 meeting to December 16. Kate seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

5. 2026 Meeting Times

Many on the committee prefer to move the meeting time to the afternoon. Shelli will look at room availability and suggest a day and time at the next meeting.

PROPOSALS - None

OLD BUSINESS

6. Public Art Program Improvements

- *Art. 2-IX Art in Public Places Amendment (Draft 3)* – Shelli reported there are no regulatory changes from the last draft. A small change to relocate the PAAB to a different section within the city code with other committees and boards.
- *New Public Art Policy (Draft 3)* – Shelli reported on the following changes from the last draft.
 - Revised from “curator” to “representative”.
 - Pg 4 - Regarding purpose statement replaced “values” with “standards” as discussed last month.
 - Pg. 4 - Added an option for agreements with art organizations to provide artwork. This is currently in Sec 3.B Accession and should be its own section since that could be a loan or a donation.
 - Pg. 4 - Clarified that we will not be accepting unsolicited proposals. The reason for this being that we want to make sure we are going through the proper procurement processes – either a

standing agreement, an RFP process, or a donation, or commission. Accepting unsolicited does not appear to be common in other public art program. Gives you and the city more control of the overall public art program – allows it to be more curated.

- Pg 6 - Revised the context evaluation criteria as discussed last month.
- Pg 8 - Wanted to allow some flexibility in the alteration of approved designs and added a “minor adjustment” option that can be approved administratively instead of going back through the process. This includes changes in font style and size, by less than 10%. Changes in individual elements that don’t change the overall size by more than 10 %, and material changes due to lack of supplies, reduce cost or maintenance requirements, better options available. Any other changes would be deemed major and must be reviewed again.
- Pg 9 - Added that the cost of signage needs to be included in the project budget.
- Pg 11 - Added that exterior murals are considered temporary and the estimated life span estimate shouldn’t be more than 5 years.
- Pg 13 - For Deaccession Options – if a mural, paint over or remove paint completely.
- *PAAC Bylaws Amendment (Draft 3)*– Shelli recommended these be reviewed and adopted after adoption of the code and policy.
- *Discussion:*
 - Allen expressed concern about access for local artists to submit proposals. Clint suggested considering an annual RFP with an open call for proposals.
 - Committee suggests more up-front promotion/awareness of proposals before they go to City Council.
 - Committee would like to understand the donation process a little better.

Elizabeth made a motion to approve the code and policy with two amendments to the policy:

1. *Sec 4.G.2.a.i: “Change in size of individual elements that do not ~~increase~~ change the overall size by more than 10%.”*
2. *Sec. 3.B.4: Add a link to the city’s donation policy.*

Tom seconded. All in favor, the motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

7. **BPL & OZ Art Loan Extension** - The library and OZArt have agreed to extend the loan of six artworks currently on display in the library. This is going to council tonight, but we’d like to get a recommendation from PAAC of support for the extension.

Kate made a motion to support extending the agreement with OzArt for the library installations. Clin seconded. The motion passed, 6-0-1. Allan voted no on the motion.

PROJECT UPDATES

8. **Sewer Main – Fish of Bentonville.** Yenuli is working on this over the weekends.
9. **J and John DeShields Roundabout** – Tom shared that the artist is painting a small scale version that will then be send to the fabricators.

OTHER BUSINESS

Several members noted the passing of local artist, Graham Edwards.

ADJOURNMENT

Kate made a motion to adjourn. Tom seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.