



Public Works Department

555 Liberty Street SE / Room 325 • Salem OR 97301-3513 • Phone 503-588-6211 • Fax 503-588-6025

**Salem Public Art Commission
October 10, 2018
Public Works Department, Room 325**

Commissioners

Chris D’Arcy, Chair
Rachel Bucci
Nathan Good
Eileen Cotter Howell
Michael Hernandez
Paula Booth

Guests

Sandra Burnett, Salem Art Association
Sarai Fuentes
Paul Fuhs
Lynn Takata, Save the Salem Peace Mosaic
Cathy Daniels
Katya Goloviznina, Salem Area Chamber
Eliz Snowcarp
Paul Mitchell
Kirk Sund, CB Two Architects

Staff

Peter Fernandez, Public Works
Heather Dimke, Public Works
Allen Dannen, Public Works
Rick Barnes, Public Works
Troy Thomson, Public Works

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1. **Call to Order** – With a quorum present, Chair D’Arcy called the meeting to order just after 9:30 a.m.
 2. **Introductions**- Chair D’Arcy welcomed Commissioners and guests. Everyone introduced themselves for the record.
 3. **Public Comment** – None.
 4. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**
 - a. Approval of October 10, 2018 consent agenda and minutes of September 19, 2018.

Motion:

Chair D’Arcy moved to approve. Seconded: Commissioner Bucci.

**Transportation and Utility
Operations**

1410 20th Street SE / Building 2
Salem OR 97302-1209
Phone 503-588-6063
Fax 503-588-6480

Parks Operations

1460 20th Street SE / Building 14
Salem OR 97302-1209
Phone 503-588-6336
Fax 503-588-6305

**Willow Lake Water Pollution
Control Facility**

5915 Windsor Island Road N
Keizer OR 97303-6179
Phone 503-588-6380
Fax 503-588-6387

The motion was approved unanimously.

5. **Action Items**

a. **RFQ - Salem Police Facility:**

Allen Dannen (Assistant City Engineer) provided a brief project status update. The design/development phase has just been completed (60%). General Contractor is J.E. Dunn Construction. There is just under \$250,000 available for art on this project. Short listed artists will work with CB Two to develop their concepts. The selected artist(s) will contract with CB2 and may also work with J.E. Dunn.

The RFQ was developed from a template, and incorporates background information on the site gleaned from the Police Dept. and research from census materials and City's Historic Planner, and conversations with local tribes. The Selection Committee will include someone from Police, Contractor, Design Team, SPAC, and someone from City Project Team. Desire is that the final concept consistent with the overall vision to create a welcoming facility. The contractor has been asked to participate so ensure everyone can work together easily as a team. Comments are requested today from SPAC today.

Concerns from the Commission were raised regarding the RFQ timelines and arts representation on the selection committee. It was recommended that the artists should have at least 30 days to respond and develop the conceptual design. CB Two agreed to adjust the schedule. Chair D'Arcy requested to see 2 representatives from SPAC involved in the selection committee. Additional suggestions were made by the Commissioners in regards to overall tone and the background information provided in the RFQ. The vision statement, with the addition of clear expectations for the artists, will be moved to the beginning of the RFQ. Additional detail on the site history will be included. The idea of conducting an interview process for the 5 finalists was discussed. Chair D'Arcy confirmed that a similar process was used in the selection of the Bottle Bill artwork.

Commissioner Good proposed to eliminate the potential art location along Commercial Street and requested confirmation that other project funds would instead support a screen with architectural interest. Chair D'Arcy recommended that the option along Commercial Street remain. Mr. Dannen confirmed that there would not likely be sufficient construction funds available to create a screen with much architectural interest. The proposal to remove the option for art along Commercial Street was withdrawn.

Staff verified that public art funds associated with general obligation bonds can only be used for capital. As such, the entire one half of one percent of the funding for the police facility needs to be used for art acquisition. Staff further confirmed that additional clarification would be provided regarding the selection committee. This committee will include voting and non-voting members, and staff will work to ensure ample discussion and consensus amongst all of the participants.

The solicitation for artists will be submitted through ORPIN as well as to the list of artist organizations used for the Bottle Bill. An updated RFQ will be emailed today or tomorrow and provided to SPAC for a final review. Final comments will be requested by Friday (10/12). The RFQ will be issued Monday (10/15).

b. Collection Subcommittee:

Two projects that the subcommittee has been working on (*Public Art Scavenger Hunt* and *Guide to Salem's Public Art*) were briefly discussed at the September SPAC meeting. Staff requested feedback from the Commission on desired process for finalizing these documents and reconvening the subcommittee. Commissioners confirmed that this group has been meeting once per month. Staff will assist in scheduling an October meeting.

Commissioner Cotter Howell was asked to provide an update on the LaDuke donation and confirmed that Ms. LaDuke is very excited for a visit and the opportunities at the Library.

Chair D'Arcy questioned whether there is still interest in pushing the Scavenger Hunt into Press Play. The next issue will be the December/January publication. A photo of the *Good Cents* piece is still needed. There are additional details that will need to be discussed. This will be included as a discussion item at the next subcommittee meeting.

6. Discussion Items

a. Update - Salem Peace Mosaic:

Rick Barnes (Assistant City Engineer) met previously with the artist (Lynn Takata) and has reviewed the conservator report and associated cost estimate. Mr. Barnes confirmed that based on current construction costs, the \$350,000 to \$440,000 estimate is probably on the low side for saving and moving the *Salem Peace Mosaic*. This artwork is very delicate, is attached to a load bearing wall, and likely requires the construction of a steel cocoon during removal. Next steps would likely involve fundraising and coordination with the property owner, metal fabricators, and others on the design of structure used for protection. Commissioner Cotter Howell questioned whether the City has storage options available for the artwork. Mr. Fernandez confirmed that there are outdoor options, and that the piece could be temporarily covered.

Lynn Takata expressed an interest in seeing additional detail associated with the estimated line items costs, and suggested that there may be less expensive options for some of the involved efforts. Mr. Barnes has reached out to the architectural resources group but has not received any additional detail. This is a sizable dollar amount and much effort is still need to get the structural engineering needs identified. Mr. Fernandez confirmed that there are no City funds available for this. The City can help confirm the cost estimates. Fundraising is the next step.

b. Update – Eco-Earth Globe:

Troy Thomson (Engineering Project Manager) reviewed estimates and reports associated with the *Eco-Earth Globe*. A report by Cascadia Art Conservation Center details that water infiltration between the tiles and the 4-5 different substrates has caused the tiles to loosen and fall. The asbestos layer is being exposed. Mr. Thomson contacted two different asbestos removal contractors and requested estimates for asbestos abatement. The estimates are around \$145,000. If there is a decision to move forward, the immediate need is to remove the tile and complete asbestos abatement. The cost for this is around

\$200,000. It will likely then cost around \$475,000 to replace the tile. To remove the acid ball will cost about \$680,000.

Removal would allow the site to be repurposed. However, Mr. Fernandez reminded that this location is in the Willamette Greenway, and as such, may trigger other permitting issues. Fundraising would be needed to address the immediate need (remove tiles and abate the asbestos). Commissioner Good questioned whether there are any options to re-encase the existing asbestos. Mr. Thomson explained that this will likely lead to higher annual maintenance costs.

Mr. Fernandez requested confirmation from the Commission on the priorities for saving the tiles. The Commission confirmed that the art tiles are the priority, but all should be saved to avoid further costs. Chair D'Arcy suggested that an update may need to be provided to former Mayor Gertenrich. Commissioner Hernandez raised questions concerning the connection to the recent Master Plan update. Mr. Fernandez stated that any decision on the *Eco-Earth Globe* would require a bigger public engagement process with involvement with SPRAB and opportunities for public comment.

c. Salem Art Association – Sculpture Proposal:

Sandra Burnett shared that the Salem Art Association (SAA) was formed in 1919, and will celebrate 100 years in the Mid-Willamette valley next year. The centennial commemoration will launch a new sculpture in Bush's Pasture Park. There is desire to have an Oregon artist and a need to use an existing piece of art. The *Sentinels* (three separate steel columns) by artist Devin Laurence Field has been selected for this celebration. The central column stands 20' in height, and is an existing piece. The artist will add other 2 columns. The placement for the sculpture will be in front of the Barn in the park. Ms. Burnett is requesting approval from the Commission to proceed with the selection of this piece. She will be attending the Salem Parks and Recreation Board (SPRAB) tomorrow evening to request approval for the location.

Ms. Burnett also suggested the Commission consider looking at Bush's Pasture Park as a potential sculpture park, with future placements that would not interfere with Oak Grove, Sports, and other uses in the park.

Chair D'Arcy clarified that Ms. Burnett is requesting approval from the Commission to place *Sentinels* on City property. Ms. Burnett confirmed that the Salem Art Association is raising the money needed to purchase the piece, and as such, would be owned and considered a part of the SAA collection. This would not be part of the Public Art Collection. Mr. Fernandez suggested that if this moves forward, an Agreement should be drafted that would clarify ownership, maintenance, and other expectations.

Commissioner Hernandez and Chair D'Arcy expressed interest in seeing a detailed site plan. Ms. Burnett offered to bring a site plan on a later date.

Motion:

Commissioner Cotter Howell moved that SPAC support SAA purchasing and siting of *Sentinels*, contingent upon siting approval from SPRAB.

Seconded – Commissioner Booth. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Update – Good Cents:

Chair D’Arcy shared that the art installation will tentatively take place in the first week of December, with potential overlap to Legislative dates. Commissioner Bucci informed that the Oregon Environmental Council has committed to reaching out widely to a number of publications and will be doing their own filming of the creation of the piece. She also noted that there was mention of Bottle Bill activities in the “Bottle Drop” newsletter under the Art of Loving Oregon umbrella. The next communications discussion is scheduled for Friday.

The Commission discussed potential funding options through recycling/bottle deposits for contributing to Public Art.

e. Reappointments/Vacancy:

There is still an At Large vacancy. The Commission discussed options for filling and process for confirming present reappointments.

Mr. Fernandez suggested that the Commission may need to adjust the reappointment cycle to run through.

f. Upcoming Meetings/Retreat?

Chair D’Arcy recommended a re-assessment of the Commission role, vision, and methods for continued coordination with other organizations. This may require a separate meeting. Commissioner Cotter Howell expressed interest in discussions to expand the available categories for art on buildings as well as further discussions on temporary installations.

Mr. Fernandez suggested that a half day be set aside for the Commission to work through issues and regroup. Chair D’Arcy suggested this be scheduled before the end of the year.

7. Commissioner’s Comments

Chair D’Arcy shared an invitation to the SPRAB meeting tomorrow evening. There will be a final recommendation of the Riverfront Park Master Plan. Ms. D’Arcy also reminded the Commission of the proposed artwork from the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde. Mr. Fernandez confirmed that there will be additional discussion on this.

8. ADJOURN—Chair D’Arcy adjourned the meeting at 11:38.
