

AMES PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA – March 7, 2023
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
City Hall, Room 135

Commission Members: Erica Briest (Chair), Armaan “Guppy” Gupta (Vice-Chair), Kyle Hauswirth (Secretary), Oakley Cadogan (Treasurer), Angie DeWaard (Past Chair), Taylor Carlson, Sahar Kaissi, Joseph Merchant, Brian Phillips (Interim City Liaison), Mohammad Rashid, and Candace Zwank

Guests:

i) Call to Order (Erica)

ii) Consent Agenda - Monthly Items (2 mins)

A. Approval of February 7, 2023 Minutes (Kyle Hauswirth)

B. Treasurer’s Report (Oakley Cadogan)

C. Commission Committees Reports and Comments

1. Outreach (Erica Briest Chair; Oakley Cadogan, Joe Merchant, Candace Zwank)

(a) Neighborhood Art (Erica) –Applications closed December 16th and a subcommittee went over the applications in January to choose sculptures.

(b) AAOSE (Erica) – Jury went over applications in February-March. There were a maximum of 3 entries per artist with a \$2,000 honorarium for each of the 8 chosen artists and an additional \$1,000 stipend for the “Best in Show” winner.

2. Public Relations (Taylor Carlson Chair; Erica Briest, Guppy)

(a) Digital frames or felt frame display for festival and events? Need to decide. Wind is a huge problem at our booths!

3. Collection Management (Kyle Hauswirth, Sahar Kaissi Co-Chairs, Mohammad Rashid)

(a) Solar lighting for Roundabout Project (Sahar)

iii) Public Forum / Guests

iv) Chair's Report and Comments (Erica Briest)(5 mins)

v) City of Ames Liaison Comments/Updates (Brian Phillips)(10 mins)

vi) Status Updates - No Action Needed Today

A. Art in the Parks (Angie, Joe, Candace, Kyle)(5 min)

- 1) Joe and Angie have contacted Keith Abraham to see what our options (if any) are at Hira Park and discuss other options
- 2) Hiras may contribute money to a sculpture if conforms to their theme of children from different backgrounds/cultures coming together and if it was interactive /informative.

B. "What To Do With Public Art" features on social media (Taylor/Kyle)(5 mins)

C. Solar lighting of existing sculptures (Sahar, Candace)(5 min)

- 1) Bid is in for about \$80,000 to light up all the sculptures around Ames in the PAC inventory. This amount means it requires much higher approval and calls for bids than just PAC getting an estimate.
- 2) PAC voted to decide which group of 10 sculptures needs to be lit up at night the most and do those first to see how well they handle Iowa weather. If things seem to go well, PAC may decide to purchase more lighting in groups of 10 due to cost.
- 3) Lots of confusion about this project. Should we table this project for now and focus on Collection Management instead?
 - 1) Kyle is creating a Google Document to enable PAC members to monitor art pieces within the collection we manage. Each member would be assigned pieces to monitor throughout the year.
- 4) A motion to limit the scope of the Solar Lighting project as a pilot to the Roundabout Project that is ongoing was brought up, voted on, and unanimously passed.

D. Decommissioned Fire Hydrants (Angie)(3 mins)

- 1) The fire hydrants have all been painted, sealed and installed at the Dog Park.
- 2) Should we continue this program even before the other designs rotate out? It would get more community involvement in art (we are the PUBLIC art commission)

vii) New and Continuing Business – Action Needed

A. Ice Arena Mural (Angie)(10 min)

- 1) Taylor responded to Angie and the Chair's inquiries about further interest in placing a mural at the ice arena and a meeting was held on January 11th to discuss plans in more detail.
- 2) A call for artists was written and approved before being sent to Council and sent out
- 3) A \$10,000 stipend will be paid to paint an approved mural on the arena stairway this Summer

B. Roundabout Subcommittee (Candace, Joe, Mohammad, Erica, Michele)(2 min)

- 1) Monolith has been deaccessioned. How are we going to replace the sculpture is what we are trying to decide. Working in collaboration with others on this undertaking.
- 2) Met via Zoom on November 28th and need clarity on what our budget is so we can plan how we want to proceed.

C. AMES (Accessible Map-Envisioning Sculptures)(Joe)(10 mins) Sculptures of different animals/objects at each CyRide transfer point for people/drivers to refer to when directing people around the transit system. We get a lot of visitors and out of country students that have a hard time when they first get here. Simple sculptures would help not only them, but also the visually impaired community. (Joe)(5 min)

D. PAC Booth items for festival appearances (also needs Council approval)(Sahar)(10 mins)

- 1) New tent
- 2) Chairs
- 3) Banners/table display (wind proof)
- 4) PAC tchotchkes to give away (pens, stickers, etc)

E. Problem Pedestals (Erica & Angie)(10 min)

- 1) Safety issue for anyone using anything with wheels such as a bike, skateboard, roller skates, or stroller. Also a safety issue for anyone with any visual or mobility issues and their related devices.
- 2) Pedestrian issue for ALL because these were placed directly in the walking pathway of the sidewalk. You must skirt around them.

- 3) Like a lighthouse that is about to be swallowed by the sea, the solution I'm proposing is for the pedestals to be moved away from the intersections a bit so they are not blocking the pedestrian pathway for the crosswalk. Note: not all the pedestals need to be moved, only some of them (6 to be precise)
- 4) Other solutions could be to remove the pedestals and save the reliefs to be used elsewhere, or do nothing.
- 5) Asking for PAC to request (from City Council) that the 6 problematic pedestals be moved out of the pedestrian pathway for the crosswalk
- 6) Main Street contacted for their preferences for resolution to issue

F. Neighborhood Art (3 mins)(Erica)

- 1) The subcommittee went over the applications
- 2) The Chair contacted 3 of the applicants and asked them to choose a different sculpture for their neighborhood because Flushing Mallards was sold and it was the sculpture they all requested.
- 3) Only one chose an alternate sculpture, Heartbeat of the Heartland by Zach Bowman, to be placed at Indian Grass Court (off Mortensen Rd near Reiman Gardens)
- 4) The other application was a request for Symmetry by Tim Adams to be placed at Sunset Ridge (West Ames)
- 5) Both applications were approved by the subcommittee and need approval from PAC

G. AAOSE 2023-24

- 1) Need to approve AAOSE Selection Committee jurors
 - (a) Jury members were invited by Neighborhood Sculpture subcommittee plus the Past PAC Chair
 - (b) Jury members are: Bob Kindred (former Asst City Manager/PAC liaison), Dan McClanahan (local artist), and Maureen Tuggle (art lover)
- 2) Need to approve AAOSE selections and alternates that the jury chose so risk assessment can be performed and if they pass, they will be sent to Council for approval to place under contract.

H. Discussion of next project (time permitting)(5 min)

- 1) These are just some ideas that have come up

- 1) Adopt-an-Intersection (Art in the center of (approved) intersection)
 - 2) Decals for AAOSE (pending Main Street approval)
 - 3) Mural contest in Ames Parks
 - 4) Possible tattoo festival tie-in for “Modern Art Festival”
- ii) **For the Good of the Order – Group Discussion / New Ideas (5 min)**
- iii) **Adjournment (Erica)**

Next Scheduled PAC Meeting: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 5:30 pm

Upcoming/Recent Dates of Note:

- Officer elections upcoming in April!
- March is Color Therapy Month, National Reading Month, and Disability Awareness Month to name a few
- March has days throughout the month to celebrate mental health, physical health conditions, and the environment/nature
- March 17th is St. Patrick’s Day
- March 19th-25th is Creative Arts Therapies Week
- March 29th is National Vietnam War Veterans Day