

**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION, CITY OF AMES**  
**MEETING MINUTES – 02/06/2019**  
**AMES CITY HALL, ROOM 135**

**Present:** Heather Johnson (Chair), Erica Briest, Kerry Dixon, David Faux, Tasheik Kerr (Staff Liaison),  
Olivia Madison (Vice Chair and Acting Secretary), Sara Sherman, Kevin Stow, and James Surber

**Absent:** Cathy Carlyle, Matthew Coronas, Angie DeWaard, Bob Kindred (Staff Liaison), Claire Kruesel, and  
Paola Sepulveda

Heather Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:08 PM. The agenda was approved unanimously.

**A. Approval of January 2, 2019 Minutes**

Kerry Dixon moved and James Surber seconded to approve the January 2, 2019 minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously with a first name correction for Matthew Coronas

**B. Treasurer’s Report.**

David Faux, Treasurer, reported that his treasurer’s report is postponed for the PAC March meeting. He will give the brief (5 minute) annual PAC report at the City Council Meeting on February 12, 2019 at 5:15 pm.

**C. Public Forum.** None

**D. Old Business**

1. **Flo (Collection Item 70-0102) Bank Improvements (Request from Neighborhood Art).** Kerry reported that the City is waiting for spring to install Flo at its new location on South Duff.
2. **South Duff Squaw Creek Bank Improvements.** No update.
3. **Window on a Blue Garden (Collection Item 95-0607) and Improbable Balance.** Installation is still expected for Spring 2019 at the northwest corner of North Dakota and Delaware.
4. **Wild Flowers (Collection Item 101-0910).** Kerry expects an update on its repair at the March meeting.
5. **Letting Go.** Following the formal meeting, several PAC members reviewed and agreed upon a future site in the City Hall Courtyard.
6. **Art in the Parks – Birdhouse Initiative.** Kerry reported on a variety of upcoming outreach/interview avenues including KHOI Radio, KASI and City Access. She also said that a “boatload of wood” was delivered to Ames High School and that an announcement will be made that bird kits will be available to the public. James is working on his series of photographs documenting the building of a birdhouse and mentioned that Wild Birds Unlimited has an upcoming program on blue birds with two speakers. An upcoming SOAR (Saving Our Avian Resources) program will include a speaker with a bird at its April 25 meeting. Also mentioned as potential outreach opportunities were with the Story County Conservation and Big Bluestem Audubon Society.
7. **Update on Damaged Public Art.** Repair for Blue Heron (missing its fish) was discussed. One option is to contact the artist about replacing the fish, however there was concern that the same damage could happen again. See below under New Business.
8. **2019 Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge.** Discussion postponed for a later meeting following the completion of the Bird House Initiative.

**E. New Business**

**1. Placement of AAOSE 2018-19 Sculptures**

David and Sara Sherman reported that the AAOSE Review Subcommittee (David Faux, Justin Kabrick, Sue Koehrsen, and Kirstin Roach) recommended that the City of Ames purchase the following sculptures:

- a. Blue Heron (Without the Fish). Artist, Judd Nelson, and original listed price, \$7,200. Recommended location is Park Ridge Circle. Sara will discuss with the artist his interest/concern for replacing or not

replacing the “missing” fish and how that would impact the purchase price. From the PAC perspective, our purchase is not contingent on this repair.

- b. Parent and Child. Artist, Albert Rhea and original listed price, \$9,000. Recommended location is Moore Memorial Park with specific location to be determined.
- c. Stairway to Nowhere. Artist, Zach Bowman, and original listed price, \$1,900. Recommended location is Ringgenberg Park.

Kerry moved and James seconded that we proceed with these recommendations. The motion passed unanimously. Sara will work with the City Administration in contacting the artists about our interest in purchasing the three sculptures and negotiating purchase prices. Sara noted that even the original listed prices would fit within the PAC budget. The City Council has final purchase approval authority. Once formal approval is received, the City Administration is responsible for issuing the final purchase contracts to the artists.

## **2. PAC Meeting Time and Schedule**

Tasheik Kerr noted that PAC is the only city commission with meetings scheduled during the day and it has been suggested that PAC consider a different meeting schedule (5:00 pm or later during the work week or a Saturday meeting). After considerable discussion with different perspectives by members present, it was agreed that the topic should be considered by the 2019/2020 PAC membership, and the current Wednesday noon meeting schedule continue through the 2019/2020 year.

## **F. Committee and Liaison Reports**

### **1. Collection Management (Olivia Madison, Chair).**

- **Management Inventory.** Olivia reported that Paola and she had a very productive meeting with Ben McConville, GIS Coordinator, City of Ames. The first priority is to explore how we could transition our current public artwork access used for AAOSE (with descriptions and locations linked to web maps) to a city-managed GIS system/database (both public and administrative). With that in place, we could turn to expanding it to include our new long anticipated administrative collection management tool.
- **The 2018 Public Art Inventory.** Tasheik will ask Jacque Clark to email Olivia the WORD and PDF versions of the 2018 inventory.

### **2. Public Relations (Paola Sepulveda and Kerry Dixon, Co-Chairs).**

Kerry reported on upcoming PAC-related events, including Reiman Gardens, Farmers Market and the Octagon Art Festival. A lively discussion followed Sara’s positively received suggestion for a sidewalk chalk contest event (for all ages) tied to the Octagon Art Festival. Heather was very interested and future investigation will be forthcoming.

### **3. Outreach (David Faux and Heather Johnson, Co-Chairs).**

- **AAOSE and Neighborhood Sculpture.** See above under New Business.
- **Art in the Park – Birdhouse Initiative.** See above under Old Business.

## **G. City of Ames Liaison Comments (Tasheik Kerr).**

1. The Annual Board and Commission Luncheon is scheduled for March 28 at the Gateway. Invitations will be sent out to all members.
2. City of Ames Water Works will hold a luncheon on May.

## **H. For the Good of the Order**

The next PAC meeting will be held at 12:00 noon on March 6, 2019, at the Ames City Hall, Conference Room 135. Olivia mentioned that she will be absent at the March meeting. Heather reminded the commission that the PAC officer elections will take place during the PAC April meeting.

## **I. Adjournment.**

Heather adjourned the meeting at 12: 56 pm.

Submitted by  
Olivia Madison, Acting Secretary