



**PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 18, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.
Keizer Civic Center**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Chair Kim Steen at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was noted as follows:

Commissioners Present:

Kim Steen, Chair
Beth Melendy, Vice Chair (left @ 7:38)
Andrea Madison
Lore Christopher (via phone) (left @ 8:10)
Michele Roland-Schwartz
Felicia Squires
Laura Reid

Staff Present:

Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION ~ Guillermo Rodriguez on behalf of the Volunteer Coordinating Committee expressed gratitude to the Commissioners for their continued volunteer efforts and distributed cookies as a token of appreciation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ Beth Melendy moved to approve the March 2021 minutes. Andrea Madison seconded. Motion passed as follows: Steen, Madison, Squires, Reid, Christopher and Roland-Schwartz in favor with Melendy abstaining.

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Didier Planell introduced himself explaining that he is an artist working primarily in mosaic and stained glass with some sculpture and paint. He explained that he had some ideas for River Road and would like to give classes as well. Lore Christopher offered to introduce him to the Keizer Art Association where he might have an opportunity to teach a class. Commissioners suggested he consider Chalmers Jones Park as a possible Cultural Art Mosaic opportunity.

Enrique Sepulveda introduced himself noting that he traditionally does urban art murals and was interested in possibly painting a utility box. Commission agreed that the box at River and Lockhaven would be a good one to be painted. Lore Christopher explained that permission from the utility company still needed to be secured and that Ashland Oregon had a program that Keizer could use for a model. Commission suggested he give thought to designing something using his urban art style but have it include a northwest icon such as mountains, trees, fish, etc.

Mr. Sepulveda then suggested that Keizer have an Urban Street Art Festival. He provided details noting that sandwich boards made of 4 x 8 plywood could be placed along a street and artists could paint while others watched. Commission suggested that this might be something done in partnership with the Chamber and the Keizerfest. She suggested that Mr. Sepulveda find artists who would be willing to participate and check with construction companies who might be willing to donate the plywood.

GALLERY DISPLAY SCHEDULE: Committee members reviewed photographs of the artwork and poems submitted by Larry Gross. Following lengthy discussion regarding nudity and possible misinterpretation of the poems, commission agreed to exclude two pieces and all of the poetry.

Andrea Madison moved to approve all the pieces submitted by Larry Gross except for the poetry, "Breath of Life" and "Heart of Faith Highway" for display during June and July 2021. Lore Christopher seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Melendy, Christopher, Madison, Squires, Reid and Roland-Schwartz in favor.

RENEWAL OF STARTING PRECIOUS MEMORIES SCULPTURE (Boucher Jewelers): Beth Melendy moved to renew the contract with Boucher Jewelers for Starting Precious Memories for two years. Andrea Madison seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Madison, Squires, Christopher, Reid, Melendy and Roland-Schwartz in favor.

SASQUATCH SCULPTURE: Lore Christopher provided installation details and shared photographs of possible locations in Keizer Rapids Park noting that the Commission will ask Council which location they prefer.

Andrea Madison moved to recommend to Keizer City Council that they approve the installation a Sasquatch statue carved by James Lukinich at Keizer Rapids Park. Lore Christopher seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Madison, Squires, Christopher, Reid and Roland-Schwartz in favor with Melendy absent at time of vote.

Lore Christopher moved to allow spending up to \$1500 from the Arts Commission budget for carving and installation of the Sasquatch sculpture. Motion passed as follows: Steen, Madison, Squires, Christopher, Reid and Roland-Schwartz in favor with Melendy absent at time of vote.

STATUS OF MROSS SCULPTURE: Lore Christopher volunteered to contact Mr. Mross to postpone installation of any art until next summer and to request that he come up with something whimsical and colorful. Commission agreed by consensus to allow her to do so.

STATUS OF JIM JOHNSON (EAGLE) SCULPTURE: Installed

SIGN HOLDERS: Staff reported that C&S Machine had quoted a price of \$150 each. They are awaiting a bid from Zane Leek. Lore Christopher volunteered to check with Rick Day and Rob Miller.

FUTURE STATUE OWNERSHIP: Lore Christopher reported that Council had expressed an interest in purchasing the new Eagle sculpture. Finance Director Tim Wood had indicated that he would need a recommendation from KPAC to explore possible funding avenues. Ms. Christopher has also approached Darren Bloch (owner of the property) about partnering with the City to buy the statue. Commission discussed appropriateness of using funding from the American Rescue Plan for this project.

Lore Christopher moved to make a recommendation to Finance Director Tim Wood that Keizer Public Arts Commission is in favor of purchasing the 'Wet Eagle' sculpture should it fit into the parameters of the American Rescue Plan money or other budgeted money available. Laura Reid seconded. Motion passed as follows: Roland-Schwartz, Reid, Steen, Christopher and Squires in favor with Melendy and Madison opposed.

STATUS OF GRANT RESEARCH: Michele Roland-Schwartz reviewed information received from Kelly Walther and Grant Services of America noting that the City would need to partner with a foundation in order to get their non-profit status. Ms. Roland-Schwartz indicated that she is willing to write grants but many pieces need to be put in place first. Discussion took place regarding partnering with Oregon Cultural Trust and the Oregon Community Foundation, developing a detailed outline for a project before seeking a grant, and paying Ms. Walther to review a grant prior to submitting it. Staff reminded Commission that permission from Council was required before submitting a grant request.

REVIEW OF CULTURAL HISTORY POLE SIGNAGE: Staff reported that sign holders had been purchased and are ready to be installed when the signs are done. Draft signs were briefly reviewed. Lore Christopher indicated that she would work on finalizing them for approval at the June meeting. References to Century Farms will be removed, Wallace House information added with reference to detailed information inside City Hall, focus on Willamette Valley agriculture.

MASTER PLAN APPROVAL: Andrea Madison reported that she had put the Master Plan into a readable format but still needed an updated inventory of what is in the city along with contracts and upkeep information. It was noted that murals need to be sealed with a graffiti proof sealer every 5 years and wood sculptures need to be sealed annually.

OTHER BUSINESS

Additional Meetings: Commissioners agreed to meet on June 22.

Biondi Insta-Art Proposal: As requested by Commission at the previous meeting, Isabella Biondi shared information on a proposal for painting Insta-Art noting that there are different wing options such as butterfly, dragon, bird, etc. Commission indicated that they wanted her to use her artistic talent to decide which would be best but that there must be a small, medium and large set and it would need to include a location identifier. Lore Christopher moved to approve \$200 for Isabella Biondi for painting insta-art on the Keizer Rapids Park Big Toy restroom wall pending final design approval. Andrea Madison seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Madison, Squires, Christopher, Reid, Melendy and Roland-Schwartz in favor. Ms. Biondi was urged to solicit donations for the paint and to apply for a matching grant from the Parks Board since this project would be in a park.

Future Art Purchase: Lore Christopher suggested that the Commission purchase a piece of gallery art from the past fiscal year at the end of each fiscal year if there are funds available. Staff will compile art for each fiscal year and transmit the compilation to the Commission at the May meeting. Commissioners will choose their top ten choices; duplicates will be tallied and reviewed at the meeting with Commissioners voting on the top three in order of priority. Commissioners supported this idea.

Reporting to Council: Andrea Madison will report at the June 7 Council meeting.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 22, 2021

Minutes approved: 06-22-21