

**PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE**  
**February 18, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

ATTENDANCE: Jack Soley - Chair; Alice Spencer, Peggy Golden, Steven Halpert, David Wade, Rick Renner and Sally Streuver. Guests: Terry DeWan and Pandora LaCasse

Approval of minutes with corrections to Dave Wade's comment with regard to public art at East End School, corrected spelling of Sally Streuver and Steven Halpert.

**Stone Dragon Relocation Discussion**

Barb Hager presented the proposal from the Friends of Deering Oaks to site the sculpture in the Ravine area of Deering Oaks.

Ethan Boxer-Macomber presented the proposal from East End Community School to site the sculpture at EECS.

**Questions from Committee Members:**

Jack – Which location? Ethan location A is their first choice site and the one to be considered. Principal Carol Day of EECS discussed maintenance issues.

Pandora – Why was the project not.....

Steve – Accessibility – This is a site (EECS) that does not have any other art features.

Peggy – This piece does not work at this setting (EECS). Landscape is uncertain. Need to put it where it will look best for this piece. This piece would look best at Deering Oaks.

Sally – Mission is to diversify access to public art. Look forward to a landscape plan for the piece. It would be nice to have the two Carol Hanson pieces together, but there is a greater need at EECS.

Rick – Agrees with Sally. It is a policy to distribute or decentralize the art locations. The other sites of EECS (B and C) are non-starters.

Dave – Deering Oaks land form is a better setting for the dragon, the EECS needs a larger more vertical piece. Dragon requires a more undulating land form.

Terry DeWan – Can the EECS site be bermed? Can the head be elevated? Is Deering Oaks location on flat area? Sketch make site look like it is a sloped area.

Alice – EECS really needs a piece. Will be used year round, 24/7. Deering Oaks will be part year . She is less concerned with the site layout, we can work on that.

For the record: Alice opened and closed the public hearing portion of the meeting and there were no public comments.

Sally moves to recommend the East End School site subject to working on the site design and contingent upon the committee and the artists continued involvement. The vote was 5-2 (Peggy Golden and Dave Wade opposed).

### **Mapping for Site Selection**

Rick presented the tasks and timeline to work with USM students. Jan Pirobek is planning a course next year, fall semester, based on “lost sites” competition. Process to comb areas of the City, e.g. west of State Street, 15-20 students to “read area” based on City GIS. Steve, Jack, Alice and Rick will convene the subcommittee.

**Bayside Trail** - has formed a Public Art Subcommittee.

**Stanley Pullen Memorial Fountain – It has been barricaded to protect it from the elements during the winter. The plan is to determine a creative and natural solution for the future. Jack suggested we have a schedule to determine if it can be done this year.**

### **Little Water Girl**

Scott Hanson will manage from the Planning Office. Pandora asks if there are any descendents of the artist to be considered? Requests by Steve Halpert for information and documentation about the sculpture.

### **Merrill Sculpture**

Lighting mock up has been approved by the Dark Sky group who will provide an endorsement to the City so there will be a letter on file. This will address the concerns about ambient light bleeding out at night and adding to light pollution. Pandora asks if LED’s have been considered? 50 watt halogens will be used and dimmers have been added.

### **“Jewell Box” bus shelter**

There is a question about whether or not the bus schedule can be located in shelter. Seems it can be solved by placing it on the power box. Artist to be consulted. Laura Haddad will provide a suitable space.

### **Peppermint Park**

Sally presented current plans by Regina Leonard. Potential for a community arts project. Alex and Sally to review the community arts guidelines. New neighborhood association has been formed. Next step is to review community art guidelines and potential budget. (\$2,500 - \$10,000 range).

## **Community Arts Guidelines**

Sally, Cathy and Alex will meet to organize the revisions so it can be added to the City Council agenda.

## **Signs**

Sally found the font, based on a Mac OS9 font (New York), she revived from internet (Twitter). Bid specs for sign commission – Jonathan Taggart to determine signs for 3 new pieces. Hope to have draft for request for quotes on signs by the next meeting. Sally will send the draft to Jack, Alex, Dave and Cathy in advance of the meeting.

## **New Commission**

Alice, Peggy and Jack to meet. Sally might join.

## **Winslow Park**

Sally connected with Vivian Beeres regarding a possible May opening ceremony. Sally was wondering if there was a possibility of coordinating with PACA (who has funds for guest lectures on public art from MAC) to add to their series. Cathy thought there was some potential and would need to discuss with PACA's committee.

Public Art Staffing Update – Cathy updated the group that the contract was signed and that the insurance issues had been resolved.

Alice adjourned the meeting at 6pm.

Notes prepared by Alex Jaegerman and Cathy Valenza.