Portland Public Art Committee  
Wednesday, April 18, 2018  
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Portland Public Library

Attendance: Julia Kirby, Chair, Jenna Crowder, Diana Greenwold, Lin Lisberger, Tony Muench, Corey Templeton. Not in attendance: Councilor Pious Ali, James Cradock, Alison Hildreth, Pandora LaCasse, Daniel Minter. Member of the public: Athena Lynch

Call to Order 4:00pm – waiting for quorum

Project Reports

Art Underfoot: Kirby reported on the project for Caitlin. She said that Ed is currently working on adding the pins to the replacement bricks, so they should be ready for a spring installation whenever the city can make time for that.

Conservation:

Armillary: No update, waiting for Jonathan Taggart to return and do the work with improved weather.

Signs/Maintenance: Lisberger proposed to put Longfellow sign on plinth in one of the planters. Cameron will contact DPW again to try to finish these tasks (Longfellow sign, Portland Brick sign, Portland Brick maintenance).

Loring Memorial: Cameron will ask DPW when the repair will be done. Cameron updated the committee that the family has returned with an infographic sign proposal. Lisberger and Kirby agree that the PPAC needs to approve the sign. Muench asked whether there are graphic standards – Cameron responded that the Parks Department would like consistency but no formal graphic standards have been adopted. Kirby volunteered to go to Dale Rand to discuss the status of the sign project. Cameron will bring to the committee for approval.

Amethyst: No update, waiting for CIP budget.

MLK Memorial: Lisberger attended the recent task force meetings and site walk. The task force created four criteria for the site selection including contemplation, potential expansion. Task force will make a recommendation to the Council. Lisberger advised the task force that some sites under consideration have potential conflicts with other artwork/memorial proposals – Amethyst Lot and Congress Square. The task force has listed the Bayside Trail as the first choice for location. They must make their recommendation by mid-May and will have two more meetings. Kirby asked whether PPAC has any recommendations. Lisberger agreed that Amethyst is her second choice and also suggested the public land at Congress Street and Franklin but was rejected for not being a contemplative site.

[4:29pm Greenwold arrives]

Approve Minutes from March 21, 2018 [Lisberber, Greenwold, unanimous (6-0) approval]
Congress Square: Cameron gave an update on the status of the project – not many changes to the artwork since the approval except that the City has given the direction to have only two sculptures and to change the location of the second sculpture. The landscape design continues to evolve and Sze Studio will not begin intensive design development until the design is more settled. Lisberger asked why reduction to two sculptures – visibility to sidewalk and street, more encompassing of whole entrance. Lisberger agreed with that logic and stated a concern that the third sculpture would disappear and have difficult maintenance being positioned so close to the ground. Questions: What would be the orientation of the two works to each other? Would scaffolding feel separate or feel sculptural and part of sphere? Cameron will send updated materials to committee to keep them informed.

Temporary Art
Student Application Review: MECA student Athena Lynch presented her application for a temporary art installation in Congress Square Park starting April 25. See material attachments for project details. Confirmed that Friends of Congress Square Park approved project. Committee discussed the concept and asked questions about the information on the signs, choice in location. Committee approved application. Cameron will complete the permit process.

Tread, Andy Rosen: Application has been revised pending grant funding.

Subcommittee Reports
Governance/Board Development: Two committee member positions will be filled. Chair submitted letter to Councilors describing the desired skills. Kirby and Lisberger approached candidates and encouraged them to apply. Applications accepted until May 4th.

Committee spent time drafting a list of items and projects to include in the FY19 budget. These possible projects included Community Art project, Operations, Contingency, Conservation (Glimpse, Jewel Box), USM roundabout, Congress Square installation). Cameron will provide a draft for the next meeting. Kirby will provide a draft Annual Report for review. Intention is to go to Council in June with these items.

Communications: none

Site Selection: Further discussion of the USM roundabout project as a potential site for new artwork. Kirby updated on meetings with the two district councilors who were supportive of the idea and requested if PPAC proceeds that they work with all the neighborhood organizations (WONA, UNO, ST. John/Valley), and check-in with USM as a stakeholder. Cameron suggested the committee decide in May meeting whether to formally pursue the project in order to inform the budget. Muench agreed to call Terry DeWan for more information on the landscape design.

Other Business
Annual Dinner: After May 16 meeting, 6:30pm at Little Giant.

Adjourn at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Caitlin Cameron