

MINUTES

Public Art Committee Meeting
September 20, 2017

Present: Debbie Williamson-Smith, Courtney Stubbert, Justin Lamphear, Emily Proudfoot, Robin Selover, Committee Members; Isaac Marquez, Sarah-Kate Sharkey, Cultural Services staff; Betsy Tanenbaum, guest.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the May 17th meeting were approved.

Cultural Services Staff Update

Isaac announced he is new Director of Cultural Services. Colette is the acting Community Programs Manager until the position is posted at a later date. A Downtown Programs Manager position will be posted soon for a limited duration of 18 months. The person in this position will take on the new work around placemaking.

Public Art Update

Isaac reported there were not many new additions in public art due to the mural festival. He provided an update on maintenance planned for one of the benches in the children's patio at the downtown library.

Emily spoke about the totem poles at Sheldon Community Center, Amazon Pool and the DeFazio Bridge. They are all in various states of dilapidation. Restoration is fairly inexpensive so Recreation, Parks and Cultural Services divisions are pooling money to pay for renovations and replacement of three.

Airport Public Art Consultant

Justin shared about the selection process for a consultant; Greta Lansford was selected. He said the selection committee was very thorough in choosing a consultant. Once the contract is finalized, implementation will begin. Justin said Greta had a very strong vision for the airport and he was excited about the momentum building at the airport around public art.

Summer Wrap-up

Colette recapped events and activations that have taken place over the summer and highlighted some upcoming events; she said it has been a successful season. Survey results were mixed but showed positive results that we are reaching lower income families with our summer programming efforts. Some respondents still have a negative perception of downtown; Colette believes it will take five years to change attitudes. Colette shared that activity mapping is taking place downtown, outside of the Hult Center and at Kesey Square.

Colette said efforts are being made to get some impactful art downtown in the future, and she will be coming back to the committee for input when the time comes. Visual arts events have not been very successful in the past but Studio City and Arts Without Walls was a big success. Colette believes it was the variety that made it successful, along with a lot of help from community partners. Colette expressed a desire to support them to continue to do this work because there is a lot of room for growth.

Debbie spoke about the 20x21 Mural Project; she is managing marketing and engagement for the project. She highlighted some of the publications that have featured various artists and murals, and spoke about each of the artists and their murals. Debbie also previewed some of the artists that may be coming in 2018.

AEP5

Isaac shared a handout from the AEP5 study containing information about the impact that Eugene's cultural section community is having on our local economy. Isaac pointed out that Eugene has twice the economic impact as other cities its size. He highlighted some of the numbers from the handout, specifically noting that visitors have more economic impact than locals. The information is being presented to City Council on Monday night.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.