

**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION, CITY OF AMES**  
**MEETING MINUTES – November 7, 2018**  
**AMES CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM, ROOM 235**

**Present:** Heather Johnson (Chair), Erica Briest, Cathy Carlyle, Matthew Coronas, Kerry Dixon, David Faux, Tasheik Kerr (Staff Liaison), Bob Kindred (Staff Liaison), Olivia Madison (Vice Chair and Acting Secretary), Paola Sepulveda, Sara Sherman, and Kevin Stow

**Absent:** Angie DeWaard, Claire Kruesel, and James Surber

**Guest:** Keith Abraham, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Ames

Heather Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM. The agenda was approved unanimously.

**A. Approval of October 3, 2018 Minutes**

Kevin Stow moved and Kerry Dixon seconded to approve the October minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously

**B. Treasurer's Report.**

David Faux, Treasurer, had no treasurer's report to give. He noted that the final repair and billing for Letting Go took place this fiscal year. Kerry Dixon will draft the necessary revised budget documentation to the City Council to account for this expense.

**C. Public Forum.** None

**D. Old Business**

1. **Flo (Collection Item 70-0102) – Placement.** Location is still under discussion.
2. **South Duff Squaw Creek Bank Improvements.** Bob Kindred reported that the Ease Agreement has been signed. The next step is for Pat Brown to formally donate her sculpture to the City for placement in this location through PAC. Assuming PAC formally agrees to the donation, its recommendation will go before the City Council for the final decision.
3. **Window on a Blue Garden (Collection Item 95-0607) and Improbable Balance.** Tasheik Kerr and Bob will arrange for these two sculptures to be installed next spring at the city corner area of North Dakota and Delaware. Olivia Madison and Sara Sherman will work with the city as to final placement following any decision of a third installation. During the discussion it was noted that for at least six years the City of Ames has maintained the small garden where Blue Garden has been installed.
4. **Power Tennis (Collection Item 118-1213).** Kerry reported that the repaired Power Tennis is installed.
5. **Wild Flowers (Collection Item 101-0910).** No Report
6. **2019 Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge.** Discussion postponed for a later meeting.

**E. New Business**

1. **Placement of AAOSE 2018-2019 Sculptures.** Heather reported that PAC has received two applications for Neighborhood Sculptures. Olivia reported that Liz Jeffrey applied for Westbend Neighborhood for the Blue Heron to be installed on Parkridge Circle and Ronell Lindeman applied for the Parent and Child OR the Blue Heron to be installed at Intersection of North Dakota and Delaware.
2. **Damaged Public Art.** PAC thanked Kerry for the outstanding "publicity" regarding the serious impact of damaged public art (appearing in *Ames Tribune*, *Des Moines Register* and the ABC and CBS affiliates)

and the important role of community-based public art. Kerry mentioned that City staff had primary role in drafting the press releases.

3. **Letting Go Installation.** PAC unanimously agreed to install Letting Go in the City of Ames Court Yard for better security (recommended by City Risk Management) and its central city location. The sculpture is now repaired, and Bob will arrange the new installation.

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

1. **Collection Management (Olivia Madison, Chair).** Covered under agenda topics.
2. **Public Relations (Paola Sepulveda and Kerry Dixon, Co-Chairs).** Covered under agenda topics.
3. **Outreach (David Faux, Chair).** Covered under agenda topics.
  - a. **AAOSE.** Entries are due the in January 2019. The Iowa Arts Council will be notified.
  - b. **Neighborhood Sculpture.** A PAC press release will be sent out.
  - c. **Art in the Parks – Birdhouse Initiative.** Keith Abraham, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Ames joined an in-depth planning discussion. Points raised included:
    - Council Action is required for its November 27 meeting
    - Keith may share the general initiative and discussion points with the Parks and Recreation Commission at its November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting
    - Locations: While Moore Park is still a primary focus other locations will be considered (based on types of birds and interest), and some may be installed inside buildings
    - Preference for posts – not hung on trees
    - Building Materials: Non toxic, recyclable materials, no sharp edges, not particle board.
    - Building Materials: Plywood or real wood.
    - Needs easy way to clean
    - Budget will need to include installation posts, maintenance, and decommission
    - The birdhouses will be considered city property
    - Interest in an online gallery with names, builders, wayfinder, GIS interactive system, and information regarding type of bird houses and expected bird breed interest.

Olivia moved and Paola seconded that the Birdhouse Initiative be formally considered a PAC initiative with joint close working relationship with Parks and Recreation. Motion passed unanimously. Kerry and Heather will draft the City Council Action Initiative.

- G. **City of Ames Liaison Comments (Bob Kindred and Tasheik Kerr).** Tasheik mentioned that there are other city locations for art installations, including the green space at the Power Plant and the former gas substation at 20<sup>th</sup> and Grand Avenue.

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

- The next PAC meeting will be held on December 5, 2018 at 12:00 noon, 135 Ames City Hall.

#### I. **Adjournment**

Cathy Carlyle moved and Kerry seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimously approved and Heather adjourned the meeting at 1:05 pm.

Submitted by  
Olivia Madison, Acting Secretary