

**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION, CITY OF AMES
MEETING MINUTES – June 3, 2020
HELD VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

Present: Sara Sherman (Chair), Penny Adam (Secretary), Taylor Carlson, Angie DeWaard (Vice Chair), Karen George (Treasurer), Amanda Gigler, Claire Kruesel, Olivia Madison, Brian Phillips (Interim City Liaison), Paola Sepulveda, James (Jim) Surber, Andrew Ward, Candace Zwank

Absent: Erica Briest, Matthew Coronas

Public Forum/Guests: Kristen Roach

A. Call to Order—Sara Sherman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:01.

B. Approval of June 3, 2020 Agenda (Sara Sherman, Chair)

James Surber moved and Olivia Madison seconded to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved with no changes.

C. Approval of May 6, 2020 Minutes (Penny Adam, Secretary)

Olivia Madison moved and Angie DeWaard seconded to approve the minutes for May 2020. Minutes were approved with no corrections.

D. Treasurer’s Report (Karen George, Treasurer)

Karen George reviewed the May treasury report; there were no changes from the previous report. The June report reflects payment to each of the 2020 AAOSE artists (a total of \$8,000) and to the Neighborhood Sculpture for this year (a total of \$23,225.00). Jim Surber comments a review of the budget may be needed for possible funding of the transformer cabinet project; Olivia reminds the group of partnership discussions needed with the City before advancing the project.

E. Public Forum

1. Kristen Roach, of Little Woods at 136 Main St, spoke to the group. After briefly describing her work and art-related endeavors, Kristen shared an opportunity with the group – Art Vacancy Downtown (AVD). July 1 is the designated start date for installation of works however many will begin this weekend. AVD would provide a safe means for the public to view art in the downtown area.
2. A secondary project – Ames Outdoor Art Map – would feature AVD and existing public outdoor art installations, such as AAOSE. It may be possible for Kristen and PAC to collaborate on making this map as PAC has been working on this for some time. Angie, Kristen, and Paola will further discuss this opportunity and propose next steps back to PAC at a future meeting.

F. Chair’s Report and Comments (Sara Sherman)

A non-agenda City Council Item of Main Street improvements, following a walk-through of the area, has not advanced.

G. City of Ames Liaison Comments (Brian Phillips, Interim Liaison)

Brian Phillips updates the group the City Hall will reopen to the public on July 1. It is not known if or when live, in-person, Commission meetings will resume. As a precaution, PAC may consider meeting in July via

ZOOM meeting. Olivia Madison extends commendations to Jacque Higgins and City staff for their extra work the virus has necessitated.

H. Old Business

1. PAC projects, initiatives, events looking forward to FY20, FY21 and FY22
 - a. Celebration Planning: 25th Year of AAOSE and 30th Year of PAC. Olivia Madison has been working to identify past chairs of PAC and may involve Jacque Higgins once the City Hall reopens. Olivia shares the following overview (subject to refinement), she and Sara will work on steering committee concepts:
 - i. Present a plan for the celebration for formal approval, possibly at the July PAC meeting
 - ii. Celebratory events and activities the PAC can be considering
 - iii. Committees and Officers brainstorm activities their respective groups can contribute
 - iv. Develop partnership agreements with Parks and Rec, City Council, Ames Public Library, The Octagon, The Ames Historical Museum, University Museums, and others
 - v. Gather and publish historical documentation about PAC, develop oral histories
 - vi. A calendar, and schedule, of events will be needed
 - b. Review highly rated projects from the 2019/2020 Strategic Initiatives Process, including 2020/2021 projects (low-hanging fruit) and celebration projects (Olivia and Angie) – deferred
2. Black Arts Festival & Music Festival
 - a. Outcome of purchase (Sara Sherman). Artist payment has been worked out and has been sent to the recipient.
 - b. Temporary public viewing and event following City Hall opening – deferred
3. Transformer Cabinet Mural Project Proposal Update. James Surber comments on decorating the cabinets while leaving the required stickers and notices untouched. He has learned the stickers and notices can be duplicated and layered over the original. A few cabinets have cooling fins which should not be covered.
 - a. Sara asked about viability of the project, given the budget situation and commitment to other projects. Brian reminds the group this request originally came from the City Council and suggests PAC gets back to the requestor to discuss funding sources. Olivia comments on a letter received about the transformer and electrical cabinets and their request to PAC about partnering. She suggests this may be able to be absorbed into a larger initiative.
 - b. Angie reflects on additional projects already underway and we may need to determine priorities. Following Olivia's suggestion, Angie suggests this can possibly be added in the Art in the Parks program.
4. Claire Kruesel has not heard of any updates and thinks the mural project is moving forward. Discussion at the May meeting was to contribute to the UV coating. Claire moved to provide funding in the amount of \$500, Olivia seconded the motion; Members present voted yes. Sara and Karen will assess the budget for this contribution.

I. New Business

1. PAC Standing Committees for 2020-2021: Co-Chairs and Members (Sara Sherman)
 - a. Outreach

- b. Public Relations
- c. Collection Management

J. Commission Committees, Liaison Reports, and Comments

1. **Outreach** (Olivia Madison and Erica Briest Co-Chairs; Andrew Ward, Penny Adam, Candace Zwank, and Amanda Gigler)
 - a. Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition (AAOSE)
 1. Removal of 2019/2020 sculptures taking place in conjunction with installation of new works.
 2. Updates and installation of 2020/2021 sculptures (Sara Sherman). Installation of AAOSE sculptures downtown will be completed by end of week.
 3. Innocence of Peace update – deferred
 - b. Neighborhood Sculpture – deferred
 - c. Art in the Park – deferred
2. **Public Relations** (Paola Sepulveda as Chair; Matthew Corones, Taylor Carlson, and Sara Sherman)
 - a. Festival & Event Participation for FY2021. Typically PAC participates in Art Walk and Reiman Gardens Art Fair; both events are postponed this year. The Octagon Art Festival may still take place. Without having live events this year, perhaps PAC looks into updating banners and displays for future events.
 - b. Brochure for 2020-21 AAOSE sculptures. In light of many in-person PR events being cancelled discussion took place on whether brochures are made this year. It was concluded brochures are made with Paola and the PR Committee conferring on quantities and distribution.
 - c. Additional discussion took place on possibly moving to an online gallery for polling and voting on Best of Show of the AAOSE exhibit.
3. **Collection Management** (Angie DeWaard and James Surber as Co-Chairs; Olivia Madison, Claire Kruesel, and Karen George)
 - a. City Hall Art Placement/Signage – removal and installation. Olivia Madison will be working with Jacque Higgins on signage for art identification. For next meeting, Olivia would like an agenda item covering the addition of UV coating on windows in City Hall to protect areas where art is installed. Brian may make initial inquiries with the City.
 - b. PAC Collection Management Database/System - deferred

K. For the Good of the Order—The next PAC meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, July 1 at 12:00 noon via Zoom virtual meeting (or in 135 Ames City Hall).

L. Adjournment (Chair)

James Surber moves the meeting is adjourned, Taylor Carlson seconded. Sara adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm.

Submitted by
Penny Adam, PAC Secretary