

Public Art Commission Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2013 5:30pm

PAC Members: T.K. McClintock, Dina Deitsch, Cynthia Smith

Staff: Lillian Hsu, Jeremy Gaucher

1. Meeting Dates and Housekeeping

Meetings will move to Tuesday going forward. The following are the proposed dates for the next five meetings.

September 24

October 15

November 12

December 3

January 14

Weather permitting, September 24 PAC Meeting could possibly be a city-wide site visit for just completed and upcoming project sites: Fern ST, The wetlands, Waverly extension, CRLS, 5 Western.

2. PAC Membership:

Mags Harries and Cynthia Smith are rolling off the Commission after September meeting.

Lillian requests that members suggest new PAC members with an eye towards diversity. Members must live or work in Cambridge. T.K. suggests Christopher Sokolowski, a conservator at Harvard's Weissman Center. T.K. will facilitate meeting Chris. Dina recommends Alise (Inmane?), a curator at MIT, or Paul Ha. Dina will send Lillian her contact info.

3. Public Art Process

We are working towards having a model that can then be tailored for each individual project. Handout: New draft has slots for projected dates and deadlines. Needs to be integrated in flow chart like first draft.

The City approval process happens in conjunction with the PAC approval process. I.e, we wouldn't have PAC send final approval without knowing that other city departments have OK'd aspects that would impact them. We have added PAC review at earlier stages – 'Concept Discussion' and 'Sketches and Written Draft' as formal steps required by artists.

4. Project Updates

Matthew Mazzotta Wetlands Project

Matthew Mazzotta is nearing the stage in the Wetlands project where he needs to come have the 'Concept Discussion' meeting with the PAC. Lillian confirmed that a project at that site would be eligible to apply the DCR Partnership program. DCR

provides matching funds and then manages the project. Matthew has spent some of his project money, but remaining funds will be transferred to new site. CAC staff would apply on behalf of the project. Project moved to the site from Western specifically because it is also a sewer separation site. There is no set end date, because this would be after the construction is done this summer. Lillian will ask Mathew when he can come for the first PAC Concept meeting.

DCR is projecting that this will be a recreational destination.

Fern Street

The city has noticed that there is a new pattern of youth traveling from the Danehy area to the Tobin School. Since there are no houses on the streets, curbs can be removed. Close one end of the street while leaving a short travel lane for Storage Facility access.

The Call to Artists has been distributed. The deadline to add portfolios is August 21. We are currently trying to fill the art jury. Mags has sent some recommendations and Lillian is following up on those. The art process will be coordinated with the design of the streetscape. There is no current design. The idea is to create a unique experience for the new site while keeping the middle school students in mind, and the overall city initiative for 'play for all ages'. There are many opportunities that the site could accommodate: movable objects, ramps for bikes/skateboards, seasonal items that could then be stored, solar, glass sidewalks, lighting, etc. There can be an area the length of the street that would not need to be accessible to a snow plow. Artist budget is \$100,000. The call is for \$85k and \$15k for contingency. The budget will be integrated into the construction budget. The project is part of a sewer separation site and dovetailing with traffic calming.

Mel Ziegler CRLS

The work was installed over the first two weeks of August. The plaques are also installed. The pieces look excellent at 8 sites (7 interior, 1 exterior) throughout the High School. We are getting very good response from summer students and staff.

Bike Racks – Main St

have been installed on Main St. No feedback yet, but bikes were locked to them within minutes of installation. When the street is reconstructed, the racks will go back in throughout the project area with the normal racks.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:00pm