



# Public Arts Advisory Committee Agenda

**April 17, 2025**

**Regular Meeting, 4:00pm–5:30pm**

**Siskiyou Conference Room, 51 Winburn Way**

- I. (4:00) CALL TO ORDER:**
  - a. Welcome
  - b. Quorum count
  - c. announcements
- II. (4:05) LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**
  - a. *"We acknowledge and honor the aboriginal people on whose ancestral homelands we work – the Ikirakutsum Band of the Shasta Nation, as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home here today. We denounce the egregious acts of the colonizers and government and recognize the horrific impacts that still exist today. We honor the first stewards in the Rogue Valley and the lands we live and depend on: Tribes with ancestral lands in and surrounding the geography of the Ashland Watershed include the original past, present and future indigenous inhabitants of the Shasta, Takelma, and Athabaskan people. We also recognize and acknowledge the Shasta village of K'wakhakha - "Where the Crow Lights" - that is now the Ashland City Plaza."*
- III. (4:10) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - a. February 20, 2025, regular meeting
  - b. March 3, 2025, special meeting
  - c. March 20, 2025, regular meeting
- IV. (4:15–4:20) PUBLIC FORUM** (for items not on the agenda; up to 3 minutes per speaker)
  - a. Brent Thompson, Siskiyou Blvd Plaque
- V. (4 :20–4 :30) LIAISON REPORTS**
  - a. City Council Liaison, Gina DuQuenne
  - b. APRC Liaison, Michael Gardiner & APR Staff Liaison, Rachel Dials
  - c. Community Development Liaison, Veronica Allen
- VI. (4:30–5:00) DISCUSSION ITEMS and MOTIONS** (up to 10 minutes per topic)
  - a. Art Maintenance Report & FY 25 Budget Discussion
  - b. Taylor Stewart, Say Their Names
- VII. (5:00–5:25) OTHER BUSINESS UPDATES and ACTION ITEMS** (up to 5 minutes per item)
  - a. Playwrights Walk Update
  - b. Traffic Signal Box Update
  - c. We Are Here Update
  - d. Fringe Festival
  - e. Mural Fest
- VIII. (5:25–5:30) ROUND TABLE** – Member open discussion of project opportunities (2 mins. each)
- IX. (5:30) ADJOURNMENT** – Next Meeting: Thursday, May 15, 2025 @ 4:00 pm

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Note: Anyone wishing to speak at any Public Arts Advisory Committee meeting is encouraged to do so. After you have been recognized by the Chair, give your name and City of residence. You will then be allowed to speak. Please note the public testimony may be limited by the Chair.





# Public Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

## DRAFT MINUTES

**February 20, 2025, Regular Meeting**

**4:00–5:30 PM, Siskiyou Conference Room**

**51 Winburn Way**

- I. **(4:00) CALL TO ORDER:**
  - a) Welcome
  - b) Quorum count – **achieved, all members present**
  - c) Announcements – none
- II. **(4:01) LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Read by Russell Copley**
- III. **(4:02) APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – January 14, 2025, meeting
  - a) **Proposed corrections: Playwrights Walk has 12 plaques underway not completed. Motion to approve by Susan Jain and seconded by Heather Warden. No discussion. All AYES.**
- IV. **(4:03) PUBLIC FORUM** (for items not on the agenda; up to 3 minutes per speaker)
  - a) Ken Englund – proposal to improve the North end Welcome to Ashland sign and possibly a new one for the South end to make it more welcoming as you enter into Ashland, focus on Ashland’s assets, and to make the sign more prominent; desire to form a task group for this project to explore the possible options
- V. **(4:09–4 :33) LIAISON REPORTS**
  - a) Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison, APRC Liaison Mike Gardener and APR Staff Liaison Rachel Dials – welcome and updates: butler fountain, Micah Blacklight, Playwrights Walk, MAP 2
  - b) City Council Liaison, Gina DuQuenne – SOU crosswalk delayed but SOPRIDE to continue raising funds; Say Their Names is a separate entity (not adopted public art) & will be discussed at future date
  - c) Community Development Liaison, Veronica Allen; revisions to the list of allowed Traffic Signal Boxes from ODOT would require a revision to the IGA, **Veronica to pursue this;**
  - d) Social Equity & Racial Justice Advisory Committee (SERJAC) Liaison, Emily Simon – no additional updates
- VI. **(4:34–5:42) DISCUSSION ITEMS AND MOTIONS** (up to 10 minutes per topic)
  - a) Playwrights Walk Plaques –presentation by Susan Jain, 2 plaques recommended to be funded by PAAC for \$11,000
  - b) E fringe Festival –**Veronica to investigate** if performance art can be funded by PAAC
  - c) Traffic Signal Boxes – Peter Finkle shares revised RFP template for approval (**Veronica to check with legal if a new approval is required**); Kate Womack and Russell Copley join subcommittee
  - d) Annual Maintenance Plan –approximately ~62 artworks and ~30-40 need maintenance

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## Public Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

- e) FY 25 Budget Update & Discussion – Susan Jain provided a financial management plan outlining: 1) Ongoing Maintenance & As-needed Repairs, 2) New Projects
- **Motion by Susan Jain with Second by Cassie Preskenis with all ayes to explore possibility of allocating funds for the Ashland Fringe Festival with \$2,000 and fund if possible.**
  - **An additional motion by Susan Jain and seconded by Cassie Preskenis with all ayes to select Quote #1 (no legacy is so rich as honesty) for City Hall location, a to be determined location for the Love All...Do wrong to none quote, and explore future quote potentials and specific locations for Railroad Park.**
- f) We Are Here Subcommittee – Beca Blake shared the draft letter that the subcommittee would like to send to NASU Pow-Pow and possibly send an extra letter to Grandma Aggie (1 of 13 remaining grandmothers); **Motion by Cassie Preskenis and seconded by Kate Womack with all ayes to distribute the letter on to NASU. Another Motion by Cassie Preskenis to extend the meeting by 15 minutes, seconded by Tish Way with all ayes.**

**VII. (5:43-5:45) OTHER BUSINESS UPDATES and ACTION ITEMS** (up to 5 minutes per item)

- a) Marking Ashland Places II – no additional updates
- b) Micah Blacklight – no additional updates
- c) Public Art Collection Story Map – no additional updates

**VIII. (5:45) ROUND TABLE** – Member open discussion – none

**IX. (5:45) ADJOURNMENT** – Next Meeting Dates: Monday, March 3, 2025, 3-6PM & Thursday, March 20, @ 4:00 pm



# Public Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

**March 03, 2025, Regular Meeting**

**4:00–5:30 PM, Siskiyou Conference Room**

**51 Winburn Way**

**I. (3:00) CALL TO ORDER:**

- a) Welcome
- b) Quorum count & Attendance – **achieved, Heather Warden & Gina DuQuenne absent**
- c) Announcements – none

**II. (3:02) LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Read by Russell Copley**

**III. (3:03) PUBLIC FORUM** (for items not on the agenda; up to 3 minutes per speaker)

- a) Shared electronically by Peter Finkle prior to meeting (in packet)

**IV. (3:04–3:35) LIAISON REPORTS**

Liaisons:

- a) City Council Liaison, Gina DuQuenne – absent
- b) APRC Liaisons – attendance not required, absent
- c) Community Development Liaison, Veronica Allen & Brandon Goldman – Box Drive will need to be moved to City files, committees no longer allowed to have access;  
**Veronica to email link to AMC 2.29**

**V. (3:35–5:50) STUDY SESSION TOPICS** (take breaks as needed)

- a) PAAC Strategic Plan – Susan Jain to lead Strategy Update – build on Strategy overview and timeline from previous meetings.

**NOTE:** Due to Study Session focus on Strategic/Master Plan update, **Sections VI, VII and VIII** will be deferred to March 20th meeting.

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS UPDATES and ACTION ITEMS** (up to 5 minutes per item)

**VIII. ROUND TABLE** – Member open discussion of project ideas or opportunities (2 minutes each)

**IX. (6:00) ADJOURNMENT** – Next Meeting Date: Thursday, March 20, @ 4:00 pm

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# Public Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

## DRAFT MINUTES

**March 20, 2025, Regular Meeting**

**4:00–5:30 PM, Siskiyou Conference Room**

**51 Winburn Way**

- I. **(4:00) CALL TO ORDER:**
  - a) Welcome
  - b) Quorum count & Attendance – **achieved, Beca, Russell, and Christi absent**
  - c) Announcements – none
- II. **(4:01) LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Read by Susan MacCracken Jain**
- III. **(4:02) APPROVAL OF MINUTES –** delayed to next meeting
- IV. **(4:02) PUBLIC FORUM** (for items not on the agenda; up to 3 minutes per speaker) – none
- V. **(4:03–5:13) OTHER BUSINESS UPDATES and ACTION ITEMS** (up to 5 minutes per item)
  - a) City Manager's Update
  - b) Wataru's Presentation – Power of Silence
  - c) Playwright Update – **Motion – Heather Warden: Install a Playwright's Walk Plaque in Railroad Park as proposed in the Playwright's Walk presentation. Second by Tish Way, all ayes.** Follow-up motion – **Kate Womack, second by Heather Warden: Amend previous motion to approve: the 2 plaques located at City Hall & Railroad Park locations and temporarily pause the third location (Love All quote). Susan MacCracken Jain abstained, all ayes.**
  - d) Traffic Signal Box Update – **Motion – Tish Way, second by Susan MacCracken Jain: Accept all three proposed traffic signal box locations, all ayes.** Follow-up motion – **Kate Womack, second by Tish Way: Push the RFP process through for the selected traffic signal boxes with the modified RFP draft, all ayes.**
- VI. **(5:14–5:50) DISCUSSION ITEMS AND MOTIONS** (up to 10 minutes per topic)
  - a) Art Maintenance Report & FY 25 Budget Discussion – **delay to April meeting**
  - b) FRINGE Festival Proposal – **Motion – Kate Womack: Extend meeting by 15 minutes, second by Tish Way, all ayes. Motion – Susan MacCracken Jain, second by Kate Womack: Recommend that the City Manager fund \$1,000 towards FRINGE Festival event & acquisition of one art piece as public art. All ayes.**
  - c) Mural Fest Proposal – **Motion – Heather Warden, second by Kate Womack: Extend meeting by 5 minutes, all ayes. Motion – Kate Womack, second by Heather Warden: Recommend that the City Manager fund half of the amount requested (\$5,150 requested – fund: \$2,575), all ayes.** Follow-up motion – **Susan MacCracken Jain, second by Cassie Preskenis: Amend previous motion to include the acquisition of one public art piece, all ayes.**
- VII. **(5:50) LIAISON REPORTS** – delayed to next meeting
- VIII. **(5:50) ROUND TABLE** – Member open discussion – none
- IX. **(5:50) ADJOURNMENT** – Next Meeting Date: Thursday, April 17, @4:00 pm

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Brent Thompson  
P.O. Box 201  
Ashland, OR 97520

April 2, 2025  
July 25, 2023

Ashland City Council  
20 East Main Street  
Ashland OR 97520

RE: Siskiyou Boulevard Needs a Plaque Explaining Why It Exists.

To the City Council

Besides Lithia Park, Siskiyou Boulevard is the most distinguishing feature of Ashland. Few cities have grand boulevards such as Siskiyou Boulevard. It is appropriate that its history be commemorated. Lithia Park has a sign near its entrance explaining how it came to be, but there is no monument nor plaque explaining why we have Siskiyou Blvd. We do have the "public art" sculpture some call The Bicycle Wreck, which was approved by a former misguided City Council. But the "Bicycle Wreck" is a monument to nothing.

Let's add a plaque below the Bicycle Wreck" which commemorates the origins of Siskiyou Boulevard. It could read something like the following gleaned from: (1) Images of America -Ashland; Joe Peterson c 2009 p. 25: (2) Legendary Locals of Ashland; Sam Wheeler c 2015 p 20: (3) Ashland --The first 130 Years; Marjorie Lutz O'Harra c 1981 p 36.

Henry and Harriet Carter arrived in Ashland in 1884 and became involved in banking and orchards. They planted hundreds of acres of orchards south of the downtown, and on September 16, 1888 gave the City of Ashland a 60' wide swath of land later expanded to 100 ' through the middle of their orchards with the idea that some day it would become a grand boulevard. Initially their donated right of way led nowhere because most traffic going east and south used East Main Street. Later as the city grew their donated roadway became Siskiyou Blvd.

Other knowledgeable people about Ashland history who might help are George Kramer, Peter Finkle, Jeff LeLand sp?, and Terry Skibby. They would be good composers of a plaque if the above attempt might not suffice. But we need something to commemorate the origins of our most noteworthy street before another 130 years passes.

Thank you—it is time, don't you think?

Brent Thompson  
541 944-6954

cc. Historic Commission, Planning Commission, Parks Commission