



Public Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2024

Regular Meeting

4:00pm–5:30pm, Siskiyou Conference Room

51 Winburn Way

Minutes

I. (4:00) CALL TO ORDER:

- a) Welcome – **Community members Wendy Daniels, Tish Way, Peter Finkle, Outside Opera – Jerron Jorgenson and Christi McLain , PAAC members introductions**
- b) Quorum count – **achieved**

Committee Members Present:	Liaisons & Staff Present:
Cassie Preskenis, Chair	Jennifer Chenoweth, Associate Planner
Susan Jain, Vice Chair	Councilor Gina DuQuenne
Liz Adkisson, SOU Student Rep	
Beca Blake	Liaisons & Staff Absent:
Ken Engelund	Jim Bachman, Parks and Rec Commissioner
Paige Gerhard	
Heather Warden	Special Guests:
	Outside Opera: Jerron Jorgenson & Christi McLain
Committee Members Absent:	Wendy Daniels
Russell Copley	Peter Finkle
	Tish Way

II. (4:10) LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"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, Athabaskan people. We also recognize and acknowledge the Shasta village of K'wakhakha – "Where the Crow Lights" – that is now the Ashland City Plaza."

Read by Russell Copley

- a) **(4:15) APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – August 15, 2024, regular meeting

III. One correction was suggested and made to Section VI.a – changed *abstained to opposed*. Ken Engelund motioned to approve the minutes with amendment; the motion was seconded. All approved.

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IV. **(4:20–4:30) PUBLIC FORUM** (for items not on the agenda; up to 3 minutes per speaker)
No speakers

V. **(4:30–4:45) LIAISON REPORTS**

Liaisons:

- a) City Council Liaison, Gina DuQuenne; **mentioned that Council had first reading of Ordinance 32.44 amending AMC 2.10 to establish a uniform committee. It will be coming back as second reading. Page 3 has information about possible changes to the term limits of the Chair and committee members for everyone to review. Additional clarifications/discussion continued about term limits and when the changes will occur.**
- b) Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison, New APRC Liaison Jim Bachman; **absent – no updates**
- c) Community Development Liaison, Jennifer Chenoweth; **A handbook for committee members and chairs is being developed and should be ready by the new year. Update on the budget is for FY24 – the biennial allocated funds of \$25,000 is now a total of \$8,367.75 as of 9/19/2024. Robert's Rule has been added to the PAAC orientation PowerPoint presentation.**

Side note: Liz Adkisson graduated from SOU and this is their last meeting. Best wishes to Liz and their upcoming adventures!

VI. **(4:45–5:15) DISCUSSION ITEMS and MOTIONS** (up to 10 minutes per topic)

- a) Outsider Opera – Jerron Jorgensen to present “Pianos in the Wild” concept – **Jerron Jorgensen and Christi McLain presented a concept to place upright pianos with murals painted on them around town for public use through a project called, *Pianos in the Wild*. Objective to engage local artists: professionals, students, etc. and create interactive art opportunities. Potential locations: 1. Plaza or Lithia Park and 2. Inside ScienceWorks Museum. Discussion included that the proposal be presented to Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission and based on the feedback from Parks, then PAAC could move to make a recommendation to City Council.**
- b) PAAC Consultations with Social Equity and Racial Justice Committee (SERJAC)– discussion on PAAC consulting with SERJAC for review of art projects in relation to topics of identity; with motion (Beca Blake)– **Beca provided a summary of movements and engagements on the topic of protected identities. A draft motion was presented to collaborate with the City's Social Equity and Racial Justice Advisory Committee on artwork that may impact protected or marginalized identities. After much deliberation and reiterations of the motion, Cassie read a motion to move “that the City of Ashland Public Arts Advisory Committee (PAAC) collaborate with the Social Equity & Racial Justice Advisory Committee (SERJAC)**

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in creating protocols for future projects involving public art, especially those related to or possibly impacting protected or marginalized identities.” Ken Englund seconded the motion. The group voted unanimously to approve the motion.

- c) John Pugh Mural “Where the Crow Lights,” Elks Building – Update – **the mural design has been changed substantially. After much deliberation, the PAAC has recommended that a SERJAC member along with John Pugh be invited to an upcoming PAAC meeting so John can present his changes, process, and consultations with indigenous people prior to going to the City Council for final approval.**

VII. (5:15–5:30) OTHER BUSINESS UPDATES and ACTION ITEMS (up to 5 minutes per item)

- a) ODOT Controller Boxes – Task group to provide update on scheduling – **Due to lack of time, Peter will send an email of the updates to send out to the group.**
- b) Public Art Maintenance – Update by Peter Finkle
- c) Crosswalks – Update
- d) Marking Ashland Places II – Update
- e) Playwrights Walk – Update by Citizen Group members
- f) Micah Blacklight “Ancestors Future – Crystalizing Our Call” – Update

VIII. ROUND TABLE – Member open discussion of project ideas or opportunities (2 minutes each) **The group ran out of time for round table.**

IX. (5:30) ADJOURNMENT – Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 17 @ 4:00 pm *****Special thanks to Liz Adkisson, the PAAC’s first SOU student representative. Liz’s engagement and positive energy will not go unnoticed in our community.**