

DRAFT
**MEETING MINUTES OF THE PORTSMOUTH
PUBLIC ARTS REVIEW COMMITTEE (PARC)**

March 27, 2024 - 5:15 – 6:30 PM

Conference Room A

Members Present: Chris Dwyer, Ellen Fineberg, Ernie Greenslade (remote), Beth Hartnett, Jen Meister, Lennie Mullaney, Alyssa Murphy, Nancy Pearson

Absent: Robin Lurie-Myerkopf, Mara Witzling

City Council/Staff: Sean Clancy, City Councilor Kate Cook

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1. Welcome and Agenda review
 2. *Motion to suspend the rules and hold public comment earlier in the meeting made by Nancy Pearson. Seconded by Beth Hartnett. Motion passed.*

Speaker- Kathleen Cavalaro spoke about private donations of \$10,000 raised to support an inclusive piece of public art as a response to the hate crime targeting the LGBTQ+ community in 2021: Pride Crosswalks in Portsmouth NH.

PARC can do research on how to best utilize the funds to create lasting and meaningful work in keeping with the intentions of the donors. Kathleen recommended reaching out to the new executive director of Seacoast Outright for input and collaboration.

3. *Vote to accept minutes of the January 31 meeting. Motion made by Beth Hartnett, Seconded by Jen Meister, motion passed.*
4. **Proposed committee schedule (all Wednesdays):**
 - April 24 (*Councilor Cook will be absent*)
 - May 29 (Memorial Day is May 27)
 - June 26 (Chris not available)
 - July 31
 - August 28
 - September 25
 - October 30 (5th Wed, Portsmouth Halloween; alternative October 23)
 - November 27 (Thanksgiving is Nov 28; if Oct 23, propose Nov 20)
 - December 18 (given that Christmas is 4th Wed)

Committee members will review dates and let Chris know about conflicts so we can anticipate attendance by a quorum.

5. Updates: “Cod and the Mortal Sea” approval- *Council approved the work by Terrence Parker. A contract is forthcoming between Parker and the City.*

“Salt Pile” installation- City ready to accept Carl Hyatt piece at the end of the main Hall at City Hall, visible to all who have business on first floor of City Hall.

6. Finalize report to Council on desired changes in public art ordinances. *PARC Chair will put recommendations in a memo to be sent to the city council for acceptance.*

7. Peirce Island Project RFP (legal review version) Review posting sources- *Latest version reviewed by the legal department. Will be sent to individual artists as well as local, state and national lists for calls for public art. Sean Clancy will let PARC know when RFP is live on the city website. [Update: Committee members should not forward RFPs directly to artists but provide contact to Sean.]*

Timeline- Post RFP early week of April 1

Questions due by April 24 by 2pm (next PARC meeting)

Post responses to questions on City website by April 30

Proposal submittal deadline proposed May 24 (for PARC to review week of May 29)

Finalist interviews proposed week of June 3

Request someone from legal department to attend April 24 meeting to assist with answering artist questions.

PARC reserves the right to re-send the RFP if submissions are not to our satisfaction.

8. Portsmouth Cultural Plan 2024 and implications for public art- *Committee noted only mention of public art was in section on historic preservation; however, the document contains many illustrations of public art in Portsmouth.*

9. Motion to adjourn made by Beth Hartnett, Seconded by Alyssa Murphy.

Next meeting: April 24, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Pearson