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## **CITY OF PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE**

City Hall Council Chambers  
11 English Street  
Petaluma, CA 94952

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### **MINUTES**

Thursday, February 23, 2023

#### **1. CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) ADVISORY NOTICE**

- A. Consistent with Executive Order No. N-29-20 from the Executive Department of the State of California and the Sonoma County Health Official Orders No. C19-03 and C19-05 the City of Petaluma Public Art Committee meeting will not be physically open to the public and all Committee members will be teleconferencing into the meeting via Zoom.

#### **2. How to Observe and/or Participate: To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can observe and/or participate in the meeting by visiting <https://zoom.us/j/93274792280>**

#### **3. How to Watch on TV: Petaluma Community Access broadcasts on Comcast and Petaluma's local channels 26, 27, and 28. With AT&T U-Verse, PCA's channels are accessible through channel 099. Local channels are not currently available on Satellite/DISH Networks.**

#### **4. How to Submit Public Comment: Members of public may provide written public comment by emailing comments to the Clerk at [eellis@cityofpetaluma.org](mailto:eellis@cityofpetaluma.org) up to two hours prior to the meeting start (January 26, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.). Comments will be distributed to the Committee members and placed on the agenda on the City's website as part of the public record for the meeting, otherwise the comments will be distributed and posted online following the meeting.**

#### **5. How to Speak Live at a Meeting: Members of the public may address Planning Commission during the teleconference meeting only. To address the Planning Commission during the live meeting, please use this link to join the teleconference meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/93274792280>.**

#### **6. Tips for Attending a Virtual Meeting: <https://cityofpetaluma.org/tips-for-attending-a-virtual-meeting/>**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Abercrombie opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Public Art Specialist Ward announced that the Chat feature was being utilized tonight due to a Committee Member's health issues.

## 2. ROLL CALL

**PRESENT:** Melissa Abercrombie, Christopher Smith, Hannah Rizzo Simons, Cheryl Coldiron, and Ally Spongr.

**ABSENT:** Anne Digges.

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT


During General Public Comment, the public is invited to make comments on items of public interest that are within the Committee/Commission's subject matter jurisdiction and that are not listed on the current agenda. Public comments are limited to three minutes per person. Depending on the number of persons wishing to address the Committee/Commission, time will be allocated in equal shares totaling no more than twenty minutes.

Chair Abercrombie opened public comment period. There were no public comments.

## 4. PRESENTATION ITEMS

- A. Public Art Project Locations. Presentation on recent feedback about public art locations for future public art commissions and projects. (Ward) This is a presentation item only. No discretionary action will be taken on this item; therefore, no CEQA finding is required to be made for this meeting item.

Public Art Primary Source Locations List - January and February 2023 

Public Comment after packet distribution - FitzGerald 

Public Art Specialist Ward presented his staff report.

Chair Abercrombie opened public comment. There were no public comments.

Vice Chair Smith suggested process to Committee.

Chair Abercrombie recommended removing places not able to be used.

Public Art Specialist Ward clarified that projects can be considered on private property.

Chair Abercrombie responded. Solicited to public locations for future projects. Introduced Kenilworth Teen Center location.

Committee Member Spongr commented that the Teen Center is a great option and starting point. Commented about the central location and way to involve teens.

Vice Chair Smith agreed with Committee Member Spongr. Commented that Committee might wait for master plan completion.

Committee Member Rizzo Simmons agreed with Vice Chair Smith's suggestion. Noted the tie to the skate park.

Committee Member Coldiron noted to prioritize Teen Center for all above mentioned items.

Chair Abercrombie commented that location is a top priority. Notes that this commission opportunity might work.

Public Art Specialist Ward clarified that project sites can apply to other projects beyond Small Artwork Commission opportunity.

Chair Abercrombie introduced Lucky's South Facing Wall. Noted high visibility location. Commented on conditions and materials of wall.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons noted the flat panels and pebbly wall. Commented the great visibility to enhance that area.

Committee Member Spongr agreed the site is also more accessible, not as tucked away.

Committee Member Coldiron noted a lot of traffic and site should be considered.

Chair Abercrombie introduced PEP housing.

Vice Chair Smith commented about linear feet collaborative effort with seniors or other community members.

Committee Member Coldiron commented she loves idea of being involved with all the senior apartment areas.

Chair Abercrombie noted concerned of visibility.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons commented about opportunity for artwork using AARP grant. Noted low visibility.

Public Art Specialist Ward noted the speed bumps and opportunity for traffic calming.

Chair Abercrombie introduced Caulfield Lane Overcrossing. Noted conditions of walls are inconsistent. Commented perhaps not for a mural. Commented about creative problem solving and partners.

Vice Chair Smith commented about the unfortunate area. Noted that approach would have to be creative. Commented that location doesn't rise to the top of the list.

Committee Member Spongr noted site to be presented as a creative option. Noted alternative approaches. Discussed creating artwork in classrooms to mimic a mural.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons commented about painted rebar.

Chair Abercrombie introduced Murphy park.

Vice Chair Smith noted the site is used exclusively for little league. Noted preference for Petaluma Community Sports Fields.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons noted high traffic area. Commented that she would see benefit for art and sculpture in this area.

Chair Abercrombie noted underserved area and multi-use of site. Commented about complications and needed outreach.

Committee Member Coldiron agreed with Committee Member Rizzo Simons. Commented about traffic.

Chair Abercrombie introduced McNear Snack Shack and Bleachers.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons noted the condition of the fields and grandstands. Commented about potential opportunity for museum of baseball history using photos. Commented about unknown future for location.

Vice Chair Smith commented about needed funding to revitalize.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons responded.

Committee Member Spongr asked about opportunity for temporary mural on grandstands.

Committee Member Coldiron commented about uses for baseball, soccer, and dog park. Commented that Committee needs to wait until Parks and Recreation to make decisions.

Chair Abercrombie introduced Floodwalls along Lynch Creek Trail. Noted Vice Chair Smith generated idea. Commented to wait on site for later exploration.

Chair Abercrombie introduced C St pocket park. Commented that community interested in space. Noted small space and footprint is small. Noted top of bank is hard to read. Noted that existing plynth already standing nearby.

Vice Chair Smith commented in support for this space. Noted the high gloss development next door. Commented that area is a great amenity for public and visitors. Commented potential of site. Commented that doesn't want to act until Parks and Recreation envisions space.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons commented support for space. Noted enjoys sitting here and proposed a perch for sitting and looking further over the water.

Vice Chair Smith shares public art plan for Adobe Road Winery.

Chair Abercrombie responded. Introduced Senior Center at Luchessi park.

Vice Chair Smith requested details from staff about location.

Public Art Specialist Ward responded with no additional detail except for right of way.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons commented about art along paths to encourage movement for seniors and use of park spaces.

Chair Abercrombie introduced Golden Concourse walls.

Committee Member Spongr commented that it is a good opportunity. Noted foot traffic through space. Commented support for connecting with heritage. interpretive murals.

Chair Abercrombie noted condition of walls. Suggested opportunity for light art. Commented need for repairs for walls.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons commented about benches and wall repairs. Noted gathering space and need for benches to be replaced. Suggested new color. Noted graffiti in area.

Vice Chair Smith commented about temporary suspended LED light project in the past.

Chair Abercrombie introduced pedestrian overcross over Highway 101. Noted favorite location on list. Commented about pedestrian bridge in Berkeley over Highway 80. Commented about bridges as opportunities. Commented that this is most visible location. Commented about opportunities beyond murals.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons commented support for location. Commented about cat walk has history. Commented about change of space.

Chair Abercrombie responded. Commented on materials and infrastructure. Commented about diversifying collection.

Introduced Copeland transit mall. Noted Community Art Grant project.

Public Art Specialist Ward commented about potential partner with Transit to highlight public transit.

Vice Chair Smith asked staff about future changes.

Public Art Specialist Ward responded.

Chair Abercrombie asked staff about potential partner funds.

Public Art Specialist Ward responded. Chair Abercrombie responded about partnerships.

Introduced Mary Isaac Center. Commented about lots of people have nowhere to go during daytime. Commented about opportunity to help underserved people by creating covered space and space making.

Introduced Balshaw Bridge. Noted public comment on space.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons agreed with public comment to not do anything on the bridge. Noted chess tables from AARP grant recently installed on Water Street nearby.

Vice Chair Smith noted agreeing with public comment. Noted the current LED strip in support of Ukraine. Commented support for potential to do something temporary.

Chair Abercrombie added comments about graffiti in area. Noted potential for community graffiti project or other opportunities to connect capital improvement projects along river.

Chair Abercrombie introduced Petaluma City Hall.

Vice Chair Smith commented could be a candidate of Mary McChesney art acquisition.

Chair Abercrombie agreed with Vice Chair Smith. Noted current artworks at City Hall and suggested Polly Klaas Center for the Arts.

Committee Member Coldiron agreed about McChesney's pieces at City Hall.  
Chair Abercrombie introduced Community Center at Lucchesi Park. Noted no comments.

Introduced open space at Stanley and Western.

Committee Member Spongr commented support for space. Noted great opportunity.

Vice Chair Smith noted past opportunity of space. Commented engaging with creamery.

Chair Abercrombie commented about later public commented.

Public Specialist Ward commented about space. Noted Rory Keller artwork opportunity has no location. Commented about possible location.

Committee Member Coldiron agreed with Committee Member Spongr and Vice Chair Smith about Stanly Street and Western Street location.

Chair Abercrombie responded about history of space. Commented support for engagement with community.

Introduced traffic circle at Ely and Casa Grande. Commented about new trees by Casa Grande. Commented support.

Committee Member Coldiron concerned about art at location as a hazard.

Chair Abercrombie responded about not becoming prohibitive.

Vice Chair Smith agreed about artworks at traffic circles.

Chair Abercrombie introduced traffic circle at Sonoma Mtn Parkway and Corona Rd. Noted no comments.

Chair Abercrombie introduced fire stations.

Public Art Specialist Ward commented both sites recommended by leadership team and support.

Chair Abercrombie responded about SRJC locations and opportunities. Commented about the fire stations along McDowell as mural wall. Noted fire chief would love to prepare wall for project.

Chair Abercrombie introduced Petaluma Transit Center.

Vice Chair Smith commented about art moving people. Commented finding the right art and present in right way. Noted opportunity for designer to encourage transit as investment for City rather than Public Art Fund.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons commented that location is not the right space. Commented transit needs to work. Suggested art on buses.

Chair Abercrombie suggested opportunities to partner with transit.

Chair Abercrombie introduced non-specific locations list.

Committee Member Coldiron commented about walking routes to schools. Commented about target center funding but no art onsite.

Chair Abercrombie responded about double egg artwork. Noted they lost interest. Noted they paid into public art fund.

Vice Chair Smith noted traffic calming through street art. Noted Bloomberg grant study. Commented about sites previously noted in past meeting added to list.

Chair Abercrombie opened public comment.

Public comment by Sean Paul Lorentz. Advocated in support for C Street location for public art sculpture. Commented about lost space for fishing and skateboarding. Commented about space improvement ideas. Suggested golden gate lumber or Ghilotti to rebuild grandstands at McNear. Commented about Stanley & western location. Noted lots of foot traffic. Suggested sculpture to connect with ocean. Commented about C Street space for kids. Suggested pocket parks as spaces for youth to hangout and exist in community space with little needs.

Chair Abercrombie responded and thanked public comment. Advocated for readymade works.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons in support for C Street pocket park skate parks ideas introduced during Public Comment.

Chair Abercrombie would love to see what Sean shared in the past.

Chair Abercrombie closed item.

- B. Garlington Artwork Exhibition. Presentation on recent tour of artist Michael Garlington's exhibition of current artwork and studio. (Abercrombie) This is a presentation item only. No discretionary action will be taken on this item; therefore, no CEQA finding is required to be made for this meeting item.

Public Art Specialist Ward introduced item. Encouraged committee members to present new ideas. Introduced mission and broaden ideas.

Chair Abercrombie presented art work from Michael Garlington.

Vice Chair Smith Lisa presented Lisa Demetrios & Lizzie Wallack artworks and collections with Eames Ranch Tour.

Chair Abercrombie presented about 100 Block project in Downtown San Jose. Presented painted crosswalk. Presented street printing process with 5 - 8 years lifespan. Presented Dana King Francis Scott memorial. Presented Fort Bragg alleyway art projects.

## 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Mary Fuller McChesney Estate Acquisitions. Committee discussion to consider acquiring artworks from Mary Fuller McChesney estate. (Ward) This is a discussion item only. No discretionary action will be taken on this item; therefore, this meeting item is not subject to CEQA.

Public Art Specialist Ward continued discussion of estate items and presented a slideshow for committee comment and interest. Chair Abercrombie narrated images shown by Public Art Specialist Ward.

Vice Chair Smith presented additional photos. Noted no real urgency. Suggested keep going back and looking at works.

Public Art Specialist Ward agreed with Vice Chair Smith no sense of urgency. Asked clarifying questions from Committee to create opportunities for selection. Requested decision for next steps.

Committee Member Coldiron commented support for many McChesney works. Agreed that we should take our time with decisions.

Chair Abercrombie commented about selections, priorities, and budget. Acknowledged estate needs and urgency.

Committee Member Spongr commented that she is open to ideas. Commented about taking opportunity and utilizing momentum. Suggested prioritizing must have artworks to move forward.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons suggested if we know there are pieces for sale, select which ones. Commented about real estate of McChesney property.

Chair Abercrombie commented about Astro Motel site visit.

Public Art Specialist suggested acquisition can be segmented.

Chair Abercrombie commented about volume and pricing. Commented that she would like to solidify a budget.

Vice Chair Smith suggested focusing on several candidate sites. Commented about the environment, group, arrangement. Suggested helping library grow collection.

Chair Abercrombie commented about lion artworks. Suggested City Hall renovations as location.

Public Art Specialist Ward commented about next meeting at City Hall and invitation to Jeannie and Dennis to come to next meeting.

Vice Chair Smith responded in support for Jeannie and Dennis to attend next PPAC meeting.

Chair Abercrombie agreed and commented about how Committee could consider locations.

Vice Chair Smith commented about Library, City Hall, OakHill park, Fox Hollow park along lynch creek trail.

Chair Abercrombie commented about Wiseman Park facing Sonoma mountain. Commented about red barn near D Street.

Committee Member Spongr suggested planter box for animal sculptures for youth enjoyment.

Chair Abercrombie commented Committee Member Digges absent in decision making. Noted male and female themes in artist's work. Noted public reception of sites and selected works.

Public Art Specialist Ward noted he will invite Jeannie and Dennis for next meeting.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons commented about male and female artworks for lovers lane by water tower overlooking Petaluma.

Chair Abercrombie opened public comment.

Public Comment by Sean Paul Lorentz to acquire works and decide on location later. Commented about price seems right. Noted the opportunity can slip away. Noted project sites will come later. Advocated to work before opportunity disappears. Commented it would be a lost opportunity.

Chair Abercrombie responded to public comment about budget and opportunity.

Committee Member Rizzo Simons agreed to get budget. Agreed that opportunity is broad and needs budget to make choices.

Chair Abercrombie encouraged making decisions about budget at the next meeting.

Vice Chair Smith noted it is difficult to decide. Noted his past comments about \$50-60K spending. Agreed with Chair Abercrombie about priorities on acquisitions.

Chair Abercrombie agreed with Vice Chair's numbers and noted Committee Member Spongr, Committee Member Coldiron agree with expenses. Noted opportunity for extra curation. Commented to acquire first if we have a place to store them until determined sites.

Vice Chair Smith agreed to share resources from McChesney estate.

Chair Abercrombie responded.

Chair Abercrombie suggested creating a subcommittee.

Public Art Specialist Ward suggested showing Dennis and Jeannie the notes and rankings with them what the Committee is drawn to.

Vice Chair Smith asked for clarification from Chair Abercrombie about how should Public Art Specialist adds other suggestions.

Chair Abercrombie responded about what represents Mary's collection. Commented about opportunity to create legacy and c. Closed the item.

- B. Small Artwork Commission 2023. Committee review the draft Request for Proposal document to discuss goals, priorities, and locations for the upcoming 2023 commission cycle. (Ward) This is a discussion item only. No discretionary action will be taken on this item; therefore, this meeting item is not subject to CEQA.

Small Artwork Commission 2023 RFP Draft 

Public Art Specialist Ward presented item. Requested Committee continue discussion with added sites discussed earlier.

Chair Abercrombie recommended prioritizing recommendations ranking system to move forward.

Vice Chair Smith commented many sites will be less appropriate. Noted the Committee can collect favorites.


Public Art Specialist Ward suggested a simple voting for next meeting.

Chair Abercrombie opened public comment. No public comments.

Chair Abercrombie close item.

## 6. STAFF COMMENT

- A. Project status updates.

Public Art Project Status Matrix 

Public Art Specialist Ward provided an update. Noted Fine Balance progress. Noted student artists payments for the bus shelters project. Commented Rhianna Frank to return to committee to present project closeout. Project report out future agenda. Noted Listening Builds Community update. Noted Woven Stories progress. Noted Kenilworth Playground update. Noted clock tower update.

Chair Abercrombie closed item.

- B. Potential Items for Future Agendas

Public Art Special Ward noted items on future agendas.

## 7. COMMITTEE COMMENT AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Fine Balance (Abercrombie, Digges, Smith)

Vice Chair Smith noted nothing to share.

- B. River Arch (Abercrombie, Coldiron, Smith)

Chair Abercrombie noted nothing to share.

- C. Woven Stories (Coldiron, Smith)

Vice Chair Smith noted nothing to share.

- D. Hidden Petaluma (Coldiron, Digges, Spongr)

Chair Abercrombie noted nothing to share.

## 7. COMMITTEE COMMENT AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice Chair Smith commented about public facing art on private land. Commented about reaching out to Spanos. Noted they were open to idea of bigger facades. Noted he will let them tell us what they were interested in doing.

## 8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES



A. No minutes to review

No minutes to approve.

**9. ADJOURN**

A. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23rd, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.