

City of Akron
Public Art Commission
Wednesday, April 13, 2022
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

In Attendance

Commissioners: Dara Harper, Jon Fiume, Danika Stevenson, Katie Beck and Kat Wentz.

City Staff: Vonsheay Brown, Summer Hall

I. Call to order - Kat Wentz 3:07pm.

II. David Swirsky and Artist Megan Shane- Overview of Public Art dedication to late father Richard Swirsky, specific to project maintenance, layout and marketing

- a. Artist Megan Shane will design and create 3 ½ -4ft tall (30 inches in diameter metal sculpture
- b. David Swirsky Family will maintain cost for sculpture and garden maintenance
- c. Slab concrete will be poured to bolt the sculpture, Megan Shane will make repairs of any damages
- d. Marketing will include mention of the Public Art Commission

III. Vote- Kat Wentz 3:16pm, motion to approve maintenance plan

- a. Maintenance plan Approved/ Katie Beck motioned & Dannika Stevenson & John Fiume 2nd
- b. All commissioners in favor of approving maintenance plan

IV. Vote-Kat Wentz 3:18pm, motion to approve March meeting minutes

- a. Minutes Approved/ Jon Fiume motioned and Katie Beck 2nd
- b. All commissioners in favor of approving March minutes

V. Public Art Ideas

- a. Continue to investigate a more robust and comprehensive Public Art inventory throughout the city
- b. Jill Maddon to coordinate with the commission to create this list, to move forward in restoration of projects and new projects
- c. Meet with councils and ward members to discuss the commission and projects around the neighborhoods the serve

VI. Mark Greer- Greater Streets Initiative, the progress and work being done throughout Akron

- a. 13 Great Street Districts, 2021 commissioned art projects are zoned on private property
- b. The work starts by looking through neighborhoods with little to no public art
- c. Expanding to do work in city parks, Temple Park, Kerr Park, Jewitt Park, Whitney Park
- d. Project in progress with the Park at the merge of Oakwood & Balch St. with hopes of public art in that space.
- e. Timeline of 1-5 years to have public art in every neighborhood that has none
- f. Mark Greer offered to be a resource to the commission as we continue in our mission

VII. Marketing Ideas for Commission- How to get the word out about the commission what we do, who we are and the work ahead of us

- a. Promote at council meetings
- b. Create a visual campaign in communities for feedback, inspire neighborhoods, what they want to see, guide people to website to tell them about the commission
- c. Akron Buzz, with Sarah White; talk about the commission and the work we're doing.
- d. Produce a press release about the work that has already been done, approvals
ex. Sojourner Truth project
- e. Build out a questionnaire on website, 3 to 4 questions, and clearly identify on how to submit proposals

VIII. City Approval of Stipend- Commissioners to receive payment monthly attendance

- a. Stipend will not come out of approved budget that the commission is working from
- b. Send W-9 to Summer Hall
- c. The stipend is for \$50.00 a month

IX. Public Comments- No Public Comments

X. Meeting Adjourned - All in favor, meeting ends 3:55pm