

Meeting of the President's Public Art Committee

April 1, 2014 2pm

Union 206

Chair Chris Boswell called the meeting to order at 2:04pm. Committee members present were Chris Boswell, Susan Moldenhauer, Mark Collins, Ricki Klages, and John Stark. No other guests were present.

Approval of Minutes

C. Boswell asked for any changes. M. Collins moved that they be approved, and J. Stark seconded. Motion passed.

Updates for the Legislature

C. Boswell gave an update from the legislative session. The first proposal was to move the Wyoming Family Statue, which was defeated. The second was to move the Chief Washakie statue to the AA due to the construction on Grand Avenue. The Steamboat statue would then be moved to Prexy's and the Wyoming Family moved to Ross Hall or Knight Hall. This idea was never formally proposed due to a lack of support. However, this issue may come back due to the construction, which now puts Chief Washakie very close to Grand Avenue. Chief Washakie may become dirty due to proximity to the road and may need to be moved. Discussion revolved around possible alternative locations such as fraternity mall. Ideas were generated, but no suggestions will be given until asked for.

Discussion Items

Transparency of the PAC Process

C. Boswell stated that the PAC process needs to become more transparent. In order to do this, a website is being created. A document with proposed website elements was passed around. C. Boswell said that everyone would be able to view the website before it went live. However, in the near future, the committee did agree to publish the policy, committee directory, and minutes and agendas with Chris' approval.

Kenny Sailors Statue at the AA

Discussion next turned to the proposed Kenny Sailors statue at the AA. Currently, the artist is working on a maquette that will be complete in June. S. Moldenhauer said that she had shared the open bid process with athletics, and they seemed like they were going to pursue the process. The PAC did not know if the current artist had been told of this possible plan. Concern was raised over why the maquette was being casted when it will look the same and as the clay model and athletics may pursue an open bid process. Members noted that the PAC is not responsible for explaining this to the artist. J. Stark was selected to speak with athletics on this issue.

Public Art Committee Strategic Plan

The next discussion item was the PAC strategic plan. S. Moldenhauer's draft was passed around the committee. The main topic of discussion was how to share this plan with the campus community. Using the university strategic planning process was brought up. Discussion revolved around the difference between a having a public art committee and a public art program, which would encourage innovative works of art on campus. S. Moldenhauer says a public art program would be beyond the committee. The discussion then turned to how to fund art through a public art program. Donations, excellence funds, eminent artist funds, endowment challenge programs, and legislative funds were mentioned. R. Klages noted that if one donor came forward and set an example, more would follow. Participants noted that perhaps the Foundation could encourage some of these conversations with donors.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 22 in Union 206. Meeting adjourned at 3:25pm.