



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

MILWAUKEE ARTS BOARD PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE

POLLY MORRIS, CHAIR

**Tina Klose, Emilia Layden, Sandra McSweeney, and Tim
Murphy**

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Tuesday, May 10, 2022

3:00 PM

VIRTUAL

1. Roll Call

The meeting convened at 3:07 pm

Members present: Ms. Morris, Ms. Klose, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Layden

Members Excused: Ms. McSweeney

Terri Grote and Sally Svetic from DCD were present as well.

Guests: Ruth Weil, Steph Salvia and Kacee Ochalek.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved (with one clerical correction) by Ms. Klose. Seconded by Mr. Murphy. There were no objections.

2. New Work Fund

a. PAIR

Ms. Svetic said that she is still waiting for a confirmation of the grant from GMF and that she has to reapply using a different application which will be resubmitted this week.

3. Conservation Fund

a. Riverworks Application

Ms. Morris explained that this is a 2016 mural that has been damaged due to a faulty roof, other repairs and graffiti and that the organization is looking to redo it in panels to be placed on the same wall, with an estimated cost of \$13,050 and asking \$5,000 from the board.

Mr. Murphy asked if conservation allows replacing it.

Ms. Morris said that mural preservation could be both ways: repainting or redoing it by panels to preserve it better.

Answering Ms. Klose's question, Ms. Grote said that this mural in particular was not funded by the Arts Board.

Ms. Weil from Riverworks said that they do not own the building but that they have a good relationship with the owner and that the idea of the panels is to address the existing issue with the draining and the moist.

Ms. Layden said that she just wants to make sure that the proposal is actually the conservation solution and that it is worth the investment because she is afraid that the same issues come back later due to the problems with the structure.

Ms. Weil said that they have a maintenance budget as well.

Ms. Klose said that she shares the same concerns as Ms. Layden and that she wants to know if those panels will be placed out of tag.

Ms. Weil and Mr. Darrell explained that the panels will be placed 3-4 feet off the ground and that most of the murals on the beer line trail have not been tagged. Ms. Weil said that the empty walls next to the murals are being tagged.

Ms. Layden said that she acknowledges the risks of public art and weather issues in Wisconsin but that she is concerned about the building's leaking problem but that she wants to support the project.

Ms. Morris asked the members if they want to make a proposal due the structural issues with the building.

Ms. Klose asked if a partial funding can be considered.

Ms. Morris moved that the Public Art Subcommittee recommends to fund this mural's restoration on the beer line trail at \$3,000. Seconded by Ms. Layden. There were no objections.

b. Lake Park Application

Ms. Morris explained that the board has supported different works on the Wolcott's statue years ago and that they have been keeping up with the maintenance like cleaning and waxing and that the problem now is the deterioration of the lead grout. Added that the restoration bill is for \$5,000 and that they are asking for \$3,000.

Mr. Murphy said that \$2,000 will be a good help.

Ms. Layden moved that the Public Art Subcommittee recommends to fund the Wolcott's conservation project at \$2,000. Ms. Klose seconded. There were no objections.

4. New Business

Mr. Murphy wanted to give a report of an extensive art work on Brady St and the sidewalk and that he talked to the artist who said that the entire work took 4 years. Added that the drawings are beautiful and that new buildings are not replacing what gets damaged, that there are some patches and that there are parts where people have tried to fill it in with something close to it.

Steph Salvia said that she was not the bid director when the project was made but when they tried coloring of the concrete, it kind of compromised the concrete and that it is probably one of the reasons why it didn't last. Added that they tried other things that did not work and agreed with Mr. Murphy about new constructions not taking care of it.

Ms. Klose asked if there was an agreement with DPW to make green the parts that get damaged.

Ms. Salvia said that no agreement was made with DPW.

Ms. Morris said that this conversation will continue at another meeting.

a. NIDC – Healing Spaces

Kacee Ochalek, Outreach Coordinator from Healing Spaces Initiative made a power point presentation and invited the members to have a 1:1 talk with her and to share the project information with any neighbors and community leaders for connections and volunteering.

Mr. Murphy asked what the program works when it has 2 volunteers (artists) with 2 projects because it seems to him that decisions are made by consensus.

Ms. Ochalek said that it is a pilot program and that decisions are taken based on the volunteers' willing to tackle any of the projects (from digging, planting, painting, etc).

Ms. Layden said that it is an exciting project and encouraged Ms. Ochalek to be more specific on how these spaces can be activated by artists and to organize the group works around the project lead by the artist.

Ms. Morris thanked Ms. Ochalek for her presentation and asked her to keep the subcommittee posted.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm

Yadira Melendez-H
Staff Assistant