

Art and History Subcommittee Meeting Notes
Arts Council Office - 520 First Street
10:00 am – 12:30 pm
July 8, 2016

Attendees: Lori Goldstein, Carolyn Krebs, Trudy Corrigan, Mike Buck, Susanna Kuo, Pat Vessely, Corinna Campbell, Sid Sin, Ralph Tahrán, Jason Hirst, Ben Ngan

Discussed the purpose of this committee and how it can influence the project

- Regarding history, the story of the area is out there and preserved with several people and documents. This group's goal is to gather as much of it as is relevant and determine what should be represented in the BFR project. The design team will then integrate into elements that are being built in the project, i.e. sidewalks, walls, plantings, etc.
- Public art is managed by the Arts Council of Lake Oswego and can be integrated in many ways. History could be a theme of the art, but art for art's sake should also be included. If a constructed element is deemed an opportunity to integrate art, work with the Arts Council to find an artist to create the element as part of the project.
- If a desired large art/history piece can't be afforded in this project, plan and design for where it wants to go and leave space for it.

Lori showed us the Arts Council's Public Art Master plan powerpoint, their vision for art in Lake Oswego. She highlighted some ideas for the Lake Grove area and BFR specifically.

- If the art is donated to the Arts Council, they will maintain it.
- The Arts Council master plan has a few parts, Lake Grove is in the Business Districts Category
- Parks and gateways were highlighted. The gateways are envisioned at the edges/roadway entry points into the City.
- The Arts Council likes the idea of art featuring lights, heritage and farming.
- Wayfinding options were discussed
- The plan for the Lake Grove area advocated for functional art, flora + fauna, smaller gateway elements, walls + screens, and night art.
- Think about tree removal mitigation projects, temporary ideas, earthwork.
- Art, history and nature
- There was a desire for more functional art, i.e. art integrated in bike racks, seating, utility boxes, light poles, retaining walls, fencing.

Topics from our Open House were highlighted.

- Natural Lake Grove – small groves and large trees especially doug firs and oregon white oaks
- History of Boones Ferry Road
- How Lake Grove was named and other associated names with Lake Grove. Kalapooya – native american remembrance
- Poetry – William Stafford, etc
- Native animals
- Geographic and geologic
- Using local writing from diaries – quotes or statements
- Significant businesses, interesting points or personalities

It was unclear what the art budget will be. Does 1.5% for art apply? Tourism fund?

The group spent the remaining time brainstorming ideas

- Art and history are 2 legs of the stool originally thought of as a theme for BFR. The third leg is nature, represented by flora and fauna
- Glass bricks with light
- Maps of Boones Ferry Road – all the way to Salem (laid out along a large paved area)
- Maps of rivers or roads in paving (laid out along a large paved area)
- Ferns – herons – flora +fauna
- Screens or scrims (thin vertical elements that provide separation with a depth of artistic detailing, but with artistic and interpretive content)
- Hops, harvest – baskets and poles
- Cauliflower (large sculpture)
- Native people's plants – ethno-botany (plants used in their daily life)
- Waluga (maybe) swans
- Children interacting with sculpture (example: top of an animal rising up out of paving)
- Ceramic pillar idea
- "Iron horse" (metal sculpture of a horse with detailing found on a locomotive)
- Salamander – creature and iron – tongue in cheek
- Timeline: physical representation of historic events
- Oral History – the Welmont twins diary
- Unit generations of people with history
- Think of the sidewalk at a charm bracelet, the ESA's are the charms where each one tells a part of the Lake Grove story
- Recent history, doesn't have to just be the beginning of LO, maybe something every 10 years and other significant events
- When Lake Grove 'joined Lake' Oswego
- Something really monumental to provide lots of presence, lit for night time,
- Large scale could be achieved through repetition
- Can medians have art? (Several examples were shown in ppt) Imagine a flight of swans in the median
- Theme is good! Plant or animal ideas for each ESA
- Natural, farm, most of all emotion and meaning
- Likes fencing with sculptural forms of plants on them
- Retaining walls with art elements made by children
- Fractals (repetitive patterns)
- Fractal patterns from ferns and trees
- When the tree removal inventory was done, we got a good idea where retaining walls would be, need to verify locations, sizes
- Screens wall panels incorporating elements made by children
- Sculpture panels made by or in collaboration with artists
- Language
- Theme is the connective tissue, need to develop them as the next step
- You need visual impact
- Link educational and visual impact
- Engage the different age groups and unite
- Charms, or scattered elements

- Human engaging art – visually exciting
- Kinetic sculpture
- Historic account of toll to ride Boones Ferry, base on if a person was alone or with a package or animal, i.e. additional charge for carrying a chicken or bringing a goat
- Muddy Boones Ferry Road – Corduroy Road
- Theme Ideas: transportation, iron industry, 20th century development (residential/commercial), natural history, smokey past, Red Electric, sticking tommy (a candle holder miners used before flashlights), geology (quarries and mine fields, waterways, native plants/animals, Native Americans (Kalapooyas), farming, horses for farming and the hunt club
- Not in favor of a lot of text, the interpretive piece needs to grab attention for 3 minutes, walls of just text are too much for people to read
- Be careful with children's art into walls, for instance, need to set a standard of acceptance
- See TriMet art website for examples
- Put limitations on artists so the product meets a purpose or intent
- Need to interpret the sustainability message, stormwater treatment/watershed health
- There should be a place that interprets who created BFR, Alphonso Boone, Daniel Boone's grandson
- Lake Oswego was the smokiest town in Oregon, due to charcoal production