

Baltimore Public Art Commission Monthly Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 19, 2021, Virtually, 9:57 AM – 11:17 AM

**I. Call to Order**

**Commissioners**

Aaron Bryant

Sam Christian Holmes

Jacqueline Bershad

Alma Roberts

Kuo Pao Lian

Danielle Brock

**BOPA Staff**

Kirk Shannon-Butts, Public Art and Curation Manager

Barbara, Communications Manager

**Guest**

Ed Gunts

**Octobers Minutes**

- The PAC motioned to accept the minutes for the month of October.

**PAC Notes**

- The PAC all agreed that the minutes should continue to be recorded in addition to the video from each PAC meeting.
  - The PAC agreed that it is much easier to read the minutes for reference oppose to watching the hour long sessions.

**Updates**

- PAC submission Guideline form
  - Kirk is working on a submission form that will be available on the BOPA website to the public. All submissions will then be sent to the PAC for review.
    - The website is in the process of being updated. The form will be available once the updated website is revealed.
    - Kirk will present the form to the PAC for any additions and modifications prior to making the form, official.
    - Working with Art with a Heart has been helping Kirk create the guidelines for the form.
      - Aaron Bryant agreed that the current project with Art with a Heart is a great example/guide in creating the guideline form.
    - Kirk added that there will be a whole section regarding the PAC.
      - Videos of each session will be available as well.

- Aaron Bryant made the suggestion to provide a “DEA form,” and an “acquisition form.”
  - “These should be separate forms because they’re separate processes and most certainly separate legal processes so that’s something to take into consideration as well.”
- Aaron asks Kirk for the next steps regarding.
  - Kirk confirmed that once the form is composed, it will be presented to the PAC for review.
- Aaron Bryant thanked Kirk and opened the floor to the PAC for additional questions.
  - There were no additional questions.
- Lake Clifton artwork to Morgan State University Conservation Report and conclusion
  - Sam Holmes states that the report has a lot of layers and assumes that more than just the PAC will be reviewing the report.
  - Danielle Brock asked, “Is Morgan saying that they want to keep the work? I know they give us report, but are they saying they want to keep these items or do they want to decommission the metal work, but keep the mosaics? Have we heard from Morgan?”
    - Kirk responds saying, “I had a conversation with, Diane full IC who’s the Conservator conservationists.” She told him that all decisions were pending, contingent upon receiving the report.
  - Danielle asked, “are we allowed to make recommendations? What’s the process? Do they have to follow our recommendations, or because they now own the building would it be solely their decision?”
    - Kirk responds saying, “Absolutely.”
    - Aaron Bryant adds, “Does Morgan’s contract Include everything that’s in the building? Does the public art that was in the building belonged to Baltimore City? Before they can sell that art or give that art away, there has to be a DA session. Does this raise particular legal issues or how does the city see this? “
      - Kirk responds saying, “Morgan State is taking over the art. Baltimore City will still own the art Morgan State will protect the art and be the Stewart.”
      - Aaron request that a meeting be scheduled with the conservationist, and Morgan with some sort of presentation/report explaining the process more thoroughly regarding the public art.
      - Danielle Broc adds, “Can we tell them they need to keep the mosaics? I don’t understand why they can’t redesign the building around the mosaics.”
        - Alma Roberts and Aaron Bryant agreed with Danielle.
        - Alma then asked, “also are we paying them to store and maintain the metal pieces?”
          - Kirk responds saying that Morgan will maintain the pieces at no additional cost to the city.
        - Alma suggest that the PAC meet with Morgan and the person responsible for the report.

- Aaron added the suggestion to invite anyone else in the city that should be apart of the meeting regarding.
- Alma added, the architect/whoever redesigned their building should attend the meeting as well.
  - Kirk responds saying, “okay.”
- Kirk asked Sam Holmes if he had any additional questions.
  - Sam asked, “who is representing the artist, and is there a way to make sure that they're represented in what we're doing?”
    - Aaron and Alma agreed with Sam's questioning.
    - Kirk has a meeting with Kim McCullough, Morgan's rep. Kirk will present questions to her based off of the PAC's concerns. He added that he will schedule a meeting with everyone involved.
  - Sam adds that the curator should create a statement regarding the art collection, so we are not burying artist's work.
- In closing, Aaron says, “a formal letter needs to be sent to Morgan right away so that they understand the process regarding public art.”
- Penn Station, the androgynous sculpture.
  - The PAC will be making a formal statement approving the current location of the sculpture. Sam adds, that the sculpture should also be, “equally rendered.”
    - In addition to this, the PAC feels frustrated with the process in updating the PAC on decisions being made. The PAC feel that updates on projects regarding public art should be presented to the PAC before any decisions are made.
- Additional Questions
  - Jacqueline Bershada asked, “are there any updates regarding the process in people knowing to present to the PAC any art projects regarding the 1%?”
    - Kirk responds saying, “we've reached out to the controller's office and the mayor for a meeting to revisit this, so I'll keep you posted.”
      - Jacqueline thanked Kirk for his response.
  - Jacqueline asked for updates regarding the new coming commissioners.
    - Kirk responds saying, “there's no additional updates however, our CEO meets with the mayor monthly.”
      - We may expect to have the seats filled by January.

- Aaron suggested that updates regarding new commissioners and the PAC review process should be ongoing and revisited each PAC session.
  - Kirk agreed and will keep the PAC informed.

Meeting Adjourned

**November 19, 2021 9:56 AM**