

The BPAC Meeting will be held in person at the Basalt Town Hall at 101 Midland Avenue. The public may attend the meeting from the audience if interested.



**TOWN OF BASALT MEETINGS
Basalt Public Arts Commission (BPAC)**

Thursday, November 2, 2023

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

99 Midland Avenue

-
- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 5:00 PM | 1. Call to Order & Role |
| 5:02 PM | 2. Approval of Minutes from October 5, 2023 |
| 5:05 | 3. Arts Capital Plan – BPAC to review areas previously called out as sectors for West Basalt and review/revise descriptions of locations. BPAC to also review East Basalt, divide into sectors, provide descriptions if time permits. Discuss next steps. |
| 5:45 | 4. BPAC Grant Process Review Discussion – BPAC to discuss program for 2024 and future years, including such items as timing, presentation, clarification of guidelines, etc.
<i><u>Recommended Action:</u> Motion by BPAC members on parameters to move forward with BPAC Grant Program into the future.</i> |
| 6:00 | 5. Winter Art Opportunities (including Ice Sculptures) – BPAC to discuss potential opportunities, programs, and themes.
<i><u>Recommended Action:</u> Motion by BPAC members on which opportunities to move forward with for the winter season.</i> |
| 6:15 | 6. Update Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. River Park Sculpture – future lighting & landscapingb. Midland Park Tree Sculpture – plan for user input |
| 6:20 | 7. Member Updates / Future Agenda Items / Other |
| 6:30 | 8. Adjourn |

October 5, 2023
Planning Department Conference Room
101 Midland Avenue
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Members: Josh Muller, Brit White, Jack Trembath, Liz Bell, Karyn Andrade, Colleen Irvin, Chris Mullen
Staff: Sara Nadolny, Michelle Thibeault, Chris Beiser
Guests: Stephanie Gale, Lisa DeLosso

Agenda Items

- Approval of Minutes from August 23rd and September 7, 2023
- 2024 BPAC Workplan
- Ice Sculpture Discussion
- Art Base 2023 BPAC Grant Funding Request
- Potential Tree Sculpture
- Arts Capital Plan
- Update Items

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 pm

1. Approval of Minutes from August 3 and August 23, 2023.

M/S to Josh and Liz to approve the meeting minutes from August 3rd and August 23rd, 2023. Motion passed 6 to 0.

2. 2024 BPAC Workplan

Michelle presented BPAC's accomplishments in 2023 which she had shared previously with Council. Items included consideration of art along the Midland Avenue Streetscape Project, programming within the Basalt River Park, the mural competition, ice sculptures and the River Park sculpture, beginning work toward the creation of a Capital Arts Improvement Plan, and BPAC grants. BPAC also made strides in adding to the Town's collection of art pieces with the Barnes donation and murals.

BPAC's bylaws charge the Commission with supporting the creation of publicly accessible art, supporting the Town's art goals, the creation of public arts through grants, and cultivating partnerships.

In 2024 BPAC will continue its work to finish out a Capital Arts Improvement Program – dissecting areas and opportunities in each area. There are opportunities to continue with temporary art installations and embellish each program currently undertaken by BPAC.

BPAC discussed the Barnes art donation, which had a soft opening as part of the Midland Spur's grand opening. Michelle noted that the area has not yet been landscaped. A bigger campaign and push will once the area is finished out and the plaque is in place.

M/S Liz and Josh to work with the communications consultant, Mitzi Rapkin, to promote BPAC and the Town's momentum in the realm of public art. Motion passed 6 to 0.

3. Ice Sculpture

Sara shared that Thomas Barlow had contacted her regarding the ice sculptures. BPAC sponsored a series of ice sculptures around Basalt the past three years, and Thomas was involved in all of the events – including acting as the sole artist in early 2023. Thomas is getting other communities under contract and scheduled out at this time, and he is interested in knowing whether Basalt will be looking for his services again in 2024. Sara posed the question to BPAC whether they are interested in continuing with the ice sculptures in the coming year.

Michelle discussed the possibility of other events that BPAC could support. The tree lighting for west Basalt will take place at the River Park this year, with a band in the bandshell, the traditional tree lighting, and possibly laser lights. The idea is to make this a full evening event.

BPAC also discussed the possibility of an inflatable installation at the River Park. Liz brought up an idea for dancers in different areas around Town, which could double as an opportunity as commerce generators.

BPAC directed Staff to explore the idea for inflatables next year and will revisit the topic of ice sculptures or other winter events at the November BPAC meeting.

4. Arts Base 2023 BPAC Grant Funding Request

Lisa DeLosso, Executive Director of The Art Base, introduced herself.

The Art Base was recently awarded a grant from BPAC in amount of \$11,800 for a mural at the Basalt Regional Library that would be created by local artists Reina Katzenberger and for building out The Art Base's computer design systems.

Lisa explained the need for The Art Base to stay financially solvent. She explained that the Board of Directors is excited about Reina's mural but are feeling less certain about expending capital on things such as computers at this time. She requested the ability to reallocate the grant funding from the computers towards programs that are already programmed. She discussed programming that is open and free to the public, such as Nori Powell's art exhibition. The Art Base will host school tours, and Ex-ed related programs. The Art Base supports Home and Hogar which is a multi-year program working with recent immigrant high school students. This program is designed to facilitate an exchange program of arts and who speak dual languages. Lisa said this program has a very public-facing component.

The portion of the grant requested to be allocated is \$9,200.

BPAC thanked Lisa for her time, and the attendees who have an interest in BPAC were asked to leave the room for BPAC's discussion.

BPAC members weighed the request against the criteria of the 2023 BPAC Grant Program. Members felt supportive of the request to put money toward scholarships, paying artists, marketing, and Home & Hogar programming.

M/S Jack and Karyn to reallocate the \$9,200 to the public programs as described, which will be utilized within the parameters of the 2023 BPAC Grant Program. Motion passed 6 to 0.

5. Potential Tree Sculpture

Chris Beiser, Town Arborist/Horticulturist, introduced the idea of a potential tree sculpture at Midland Park near the skate park. The tree is a tall cottonwood that is ready for removal. Chris had mentioned to Staff that the tree might be a good candidate for a sculpture. Sara contacted Thomas Barlow to determine his interest and initial cost estimates for a sculpture. Thomas indicated his interest and met with Chris on-site to determine the viability of the tree for sculpting.

Thomas determined that the tree would be good to work with, and provided Staff with two sketches of how the tree could be sculpted. The first depicted a man on a skateboard doing a trick, and the second was a more detailed totem-style sculpture. The cost ranged from \$11,000 to \$15,000. Chris mentioned the desire to get the skate community involved so there would be more buy-in, and less likelihood of graffiti or damage to the sculpture. BPAC agreed that would be a positive direction to move in and directed Staff to proceed with working with the skate park users and Thomas Barlow to move the project forward.

Chris indicated that the actual carving would take place in 2024, as he will need to work with a tree service to get the dying tree limbed up and ready for carving.

6. Arts Capital Plan

The continued discussion of the Arts Capital Plan will be moved to the November meeting due to lack of time.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm