



Scottsdale Arts – Scottsdale Public Art Advisory Board
January 15, 2025, at noon
Mezzanine Conference Room (MCR)
7380 E. 2nd Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85251
Directions/Information: Scottsdale Public Art, 480-874-4640

MINUTES

Members Present: Spencer Bell, Mark Carroll, Russell Grossman, Christine Kovach, Leah Manbeck, Bryanna McHenry, Jeff Miller, Elan Mizrahi, Jaime Neuffer*, Cassandra Saba*, Melody Salamo*, Janet Sandino, Miho Schoettker*, Anne Travous

*via Zoom

Members Excused Absent:, Stephanie Lyon

Members Unexcused Absence: None.

Staff Present: Kati Ballares, Kiara Brown, Talia De La Garza, Tanya Galin, Jennifer Gill, Abby Grove, Victoria Sajadi

1. **CALL TO ORDER-** Meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA-**

2a. Consider Motion to Approve December 11, 2024, Minutes

Janet Sandino moved, seconded by Elan Mizrahi, to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **"Know Your Public Art"** Trivia presented by board member Anne Travous

Anne presented trivia for the artwork *Golden Alchemy* by artist Anna Skibska.

4. **ACTION ITEMS**

4a. Consider Motion to Approve Accession of *Bigelow Blue and Gray*, 2021, analog collage on paper, 18" H x 15" W and *Bigelow Blues*, 2021, analog collage on paper, 18" H x 15" W by artist Janet Towbin – Wendy Raisanen, Curator of Exhibitions & Collections

Wendy presented photos of *Bigelow Blue and Gray* and *Bigelow Blues*, part of a series of artwork by artist Janet Towbin, who focused on shapes and boxes. Towbin opened and flattened Bigelow tea boxes and added collage paperwork she designed. The two artworks were selected from the Janet Towbin exhibition at Civic Center Library Gallery.

Russell Grossman moved, seconded by Jeff Miller, to approve the Accession of *Bigelow Blue and Gray*, 2021, analog collage on paper, 18" H x 15" W, and *Bigelow Blues*, 2021, analog collage on paper, 18" H x 15" W by artist Janet Towbin. The motion passed unanimously.

4b. Consider Motion to Approve Deaccession of *Connections*, 1999, Low-fire ceramic, hand-shaped tiles made by students, in yellow, red, black, white, and blue, affixed to the painted wall, in a non-contiguous fashion, 24" h x 40' wide by artist Janet Blum, Dyan Cavalli facilitators for student participants – Wendy Raisanen, Curator of Exhibitions & Collections

Wendy explained that the Eldorado Community Center, which houses the artwork *Connections*, plans to install a water station on the wall where the artwork was installed in 1999. The artist and facilitators have been notified of the deaccession, and the city of Scottsdale contract administrator has been notified. The artwork will be destroyed since it will not be salvageable.

Spencer Bell moved, seconded by Russell Grossman, to approve the Deaccession of *Connections*, 1999, Low-fire ceramic, hand-shaped tiles made by students, in yellow, red, black, white, and blue, affixed to the painted wall, in a non-contiguous fashion, 24" h x 40' wide by artist Janet Blum, Dyan Cavalli facilitators for student participants. The motion passed unanimously.

5. UPDATES

5a. Canal Convergence 2024 Overview & Feedback – Jennifer Gill, Deputy Director of Canal Convergence, and Kiara Brown, Canal Convergence Event Coordinator

Jennifer provided a general overview of Canal Convergence 2024, including photos, video, and preliminary metrics. This year's event theme, *Reflections*, exhibited artworks and performances that utilized physical and psychological reflections to inspire introspection and dialogue. Canal Convergence 2024 had 104 programmatic experiences, including workshops, tours, performances, and other miscellaneous events like the One Water Brewing Showcase and the Canal Convergence Mini Film Festival. Canal Convergence 2024 received a total of 71 instances of press coverage, including 43 local/online articles and 35 local television spots, which is more than double the amount in 2023. Kiara presented an overview of the second iteration of the Canal Convergence Mini Film Festival, held at Harkins Fashion Square on November 15 and 16 from 3–7 p.m. Nearly 500 applications from 60+ countries worldwide were submitted during the open call from March 22, 2024, to April 24, 2024. Jennifer thanked public art staff, public art advisory board member volunteers, and sponsors for their support and participation in the 2024 event.

6. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Christine Kovach updated the board regarding the timeline for the 10-year public art master planning process. An RFP (Request for Proposal) will be issued to hire a consultant to assist with planning. The goal is to engage a consultant starting July 1, 2025, and to form a task force, including board members and community stakeholders, to identify priorities and projects for the next decade. The planning process is expected to take 18 months, with community engagement and focus groups playing a crucial role in shaping the vision. A special funding request has been submitted to the city of Scottsdale, with an estimated cost of approximately \$100,000.

7. REPORT FROM DIRECTOR

Maps–Contours of a Story Exhibition at Civic Center Library Gallery is now on view from January 9 through March 27.

The painting for the SMOCA Mural in collaboration with SPA, titled *Big 'Ole Gecko*, by artist Kayla Newnam will take place from February 10 through February 14.

8. BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

The Board of Trustees will have their first meeting of 2025 next week.

9. NEW/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None.

10. **NEXT SPA BOARD MEETING:** February 12, 2025, at noon at the Design Studio Nave, 7506 E Indian School Road. Scottsdale, AZ 85251
11. **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:** Jeff Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:56 p.m., which was seconded by Bryanna McHenry.