

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, January 4, 2023**

**5:00 pm – 6:30 pm**

**99 Midland Avenue**

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| <b>5:00 PM</b> | <b>1. Call to Order &amp; Role</b>   |
| <b>5:02</b>    | <b>2. Approval of Minutes from November 2, 2023</b>  |
| <b>5:05</b>    | <b>3. Winter Art Sculptures</b> – BPAC to review proposal from Thomas Barlow and make a decision about the winter ice & wood sculptures for early 2024.<br><i><u>Recommended Action:</u> Motion by BPAC members regarding proceeding with 2-3 sculptures and a decision on the designs, size, etc.</i> |
| <b>5:30</b>    | <b>4. BPAC Grant Process Review Discussion</b> – BPAC to discuss Staff updates to 2024 BPAC grant program based on previous discussion.<br><i><u>Recommended Action:</u> Motion by BPAC members on parameters to move forward with BPAC Grant Program into the future.</i>                             |
| <b>6:00</b>    | <b>5. Update Items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Midland Park tree sculpture</li><li>• Art inventory spreadsheet – current progress made, eventually to be added to BPAC webpage</li></ul>   |
| <b>6:15</b>    | <b>6. Looking Ahead</b> – Staff to provide an overview of the focus items for BPAC 2024 workplan.  |
| <b>6:20</b>    | <b>7. Member Updates / Future Agenda Items / Other</b>   |
| <b>6:30</b>    | <b>8. Adjourn</b>  |

**November 2, 2023**  
**Planning Department Conference Room**  
**101 Midland Avenue**  
**5:00 pm – 6:30 pm**

*Members: Josh Muller, Jack Trembath, Liz Bell, Karyn Andrade, Chris Mullen*  
*Staff: Sara Nadolny, Michelle Thibeault, Chris Beiser*  
*Guests: Stephanie Gale*

**Agenda Items**

- Approval of minutes from 10/5/2023
- Arts Capital Plan – review of East Basalt
- BPAC Grant Process Review Discussion
- Winter Art Opportunities
- Update Items
- Member Updates/Future Agenda Items/Other

The meeting was called to order at 5:09 pm.

**1. Approval of Minutes from October 5, 2023**

M/S to Josh and Chris to approve the meeting minutes from October 5, 2023. Motion passed 6 to 0.

**2. Arts Capital Plan**

The item involved a review of the land areas within East Basalt with the intent of dividing the areas into related sections or zones, as previously completed with the areas in West Basalt. This exercise proved more difficult than the exercise in West Basalt, as there are greater land areas to consider, and less of a linear shape.

Michelle suggested identifying landmarks as a frame of reference. For instance, the bandshell at the Basalt River Park could be a good frame of reference for public art. She noted that the Sydney Opera House is used as a screen to project art onto.

Bandshell frame of reference for art pieces

Streets can also be used as a reference point for art – street murals can be created in significant areas of the town and provide connections and/or transitions points to other areas of town.

The corner at Midland Ave/Midland Spur, across from Codger’s Corner, may present an opportunity for public art, as it is the entrance to the downtown business district.

The BPAC was asked to consider prominent locations that feel important.

In the Southside neighborhood there is an undeveloped parcel that contains a walking path, located at Fiou Lane and Southside Drive. This was identified as a place with high visibility, and the intersection

a potential opportunity. BPAC suggested this location could lend itself to a potential collaboration with the high school.

Other areas identified as possible sites for public art include an area near the library/post office, as that is a high traffic zone, the Lucksinger stairway, the tunnel beneath Highway 82, Old Pond Park, and the area behind Old Pond Park that is wooden where there are picnic tables and benches.

Staff will return with more analysis regarding the priority areas identified for East Basalt.

Related Items: Staff will work on creating an inventory of the Town's existing art, including the type of art, the artist, the location, date of installation, etc.

Michelle suggested the BPAC send a letter of appreciation to the Barnes family who provided the new sculpture 'Enlightened Seeker' on long term loan to the Town. The BPAC agreed, and Staff will draft a letter and send it to the BPAC for signature.

### **3. BPAC Grant Process Review Discussion**

There has been some interest from a BPAC member regarding next year's BPAC's grant application with the thought of providing this attention well in advance of the 2024 application. Thoughts include releasing the application earlier to allow for the funding of projects earlier in the year, tightening up the criteria, deciding what qualifies as a local Basalt project, etc. BPAC has been allocated a budget of \$65,000 for the 2024 grant program.

There was some discussion as to the benefits of opening the grant up twice a year. This was done initially in the first year, but only because there was money left over from the first round of applications.

Initial thoughts on the grant program include the following:

- The BPAC serves as the arts funding stream for the municipal government. Considering many of the organizations that have received repeated funding in past years, BPAC may wish to consider the difference between an annual community event (seen as a community investment) versus a novel project. BPAC discussed if the funds allocated to the grant program could be split between sustaining programming and new projects. For instance, providing some type of art through a mental health organization may qualify as a grant versus program funding.
- For repeat grant applicants, BPAC could also structure the grant so that there must be a certain percentage of each project that is new from year to year to quality.
- BPAC members felt that all operational costs should be identified and included within the applications.
- Roll out the BPAC grant application in January and allocate funding in March.
- Work that is accomplished within the calendar year in which funding is allocated should be prioritized. Projects that may not be fully accomplished within the calendar year but are found to be compelling can potentially have additional consideration.
- This is an opportunity to use the arts to create connections. For instance, an application may rank higher if the schools and an organization work together.

- Clarify the expectations – what is required before the grant award is decided, what is required after grant is provided (require a debrief report). BPAC can create a template for debrief.
- The application could require or be an option for applicants to create a video pitching their idea.

Next Steps: Staff will go through the Basalt 2020 Master Plan and related documents to identify the community goals related to public art prior to updating a draft of the BPAC grant application. Staff will create a draft for the BPAC to review at the December meeting.

#### **4. Winter Art Opportunities**

BPAC has the opportunity to return to the usual ice sculptures for its annual winter art, or possibly try something new. The opportunities for winter art are changing with the new Basalt River Park. The December 8<sup>th</sup> holiday event will include a laser light show that will light up the bandshell, there will be a band, an adopt-a-tree decorating contest and more. This is another way to activate downtown during the winter months.

What else can be done downtown that is interactive and accessible to all ages? There are many state and federal grants available for public art. Although it will be too late for this coming winter, there might be an opportunity for future years to have some sort of inflatables and lighting event in the Basalt River Park. Sara shared some examples of how other communities have had inflatable walk through events for the public.

Chris has a line of cut logs that could be used for carvings. She has tentatively spoken with Thomas Barlow, who is a wood and ice worker, and has performed the ice carvings for the town over the past few years. Thomas is interested in the idea of carving a log and then adding an ice element to it during the winter months. During the warmer months the log carvings could be moved to trails, parks or other areas identified by BPAC. The logs could even turn into a series that could be added to over time.

Next Steps: Sara will send the article about the inflatables to BPAC. Chris will confirm his connection and timing on being able to procure the logs.

M/S Josh and Jack to pursue two wood carvings and possibly one ice carving based on the logistics of getting the materials and the project falling within the budget for the items. If this does not work out BPAC is amenable to accepting ice sculptures as the alternative. Motion passed 6 to 0.

M/S to adjourn Liz and Chris. Motion passed 6 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 pm.