



**STATE CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Nov. 16, 2022; 3:00 P.M.
OKLAHOMA STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
SENATE CONFERENCE RM. 4S.9
2300 N. LINCOLN BLVD.
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chip Mullens
Nancy Leonard
Cliff Branan
C.J. Cavin
Deena Fisher
Keith Jones
Lou Kerr
Duane Mass
Janet Morrow

MEMBERS ABSENT: Aaron Cooper
Bruce Fisher
Brent Gibson
Charles Moore
Victor Pozadas, Sr.

GUESTS: Beverly Hicks, OMES
Karl Kramer, OAG
Amber Sharples, Executive Director of OK Arts Council
Jarica Walsh, OAC

1. Announcement of filing of the meeting notice and posting of the agenda in accordance with the Open Meeting Act:

Chairman Chip Mullens was advised that notice for this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State, and an agenda was posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.

2. Call to order, Roll Call, and Determination of Quorum:

Chairman Chip Mullens called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

3. Discussion and possible action on the special meeting minutes of October 20, 2022:

C.J. Cavin moved to approve the meeting minutes for October. Duanne Mass seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion passed:

Mr. Branan, yes; Mr. Cavin, yes; Ms. Fisher, yes; Mr. Jones, yes; Ms. Kerr, yes; Ms. Leonard, yes; Mr. Mass, yes; Mr. Mullens, yes; Ms. Morrow, yes.

4. Discussion and possible action to accept the bronze bust of Governor J. Kevin Stitt by sculptor John Rule, commissioned by the Art in Public Places project of the Oklahoma State Capitol, into the Capitol Art Collection and the Oklahoma Public Art Collection. [Deena Fisher, Jarica Walsh, Director of Visual and Public Art]

Ms. Walsh reported on the bust of Governor J. Kevin Stitt and the final step of accessioning his sculpture into the Oklahoma Capitol Art Collection and the Oklahoma Public Art Collection. A location is still yet to be determined.

Commissioner Fisher reported that the Art Standards Committee met before the meeting and recommended that the commission accept this piece of art.

Duane Mass motioned that the bust of Governor J. Kevin Stitt is accepted into the Capitol Art Collection and the Oklahoma Public Art Collection. C.J. Cavin seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion passed:

Mr. Branan, yes; Mr. Cavin, yes; Ms. Fisher, yes; Mr. Jones, yes; Ms. Kerr, yes; Ms. Leonard, yes; Mr. Mass, yes; Mr. Mullens, yes; Ms. Morrow, yes.

5. Discussion and possible action to approve the revised Capitol Art Reinstallation Plan. [Deena Fisher, Jarica Walsh, Director of Visual and Public Art]

Ms. Walsh reported on a request from the Supreme court on a minor change made on the second floor of the Capitol in the Hall of Heroes, which was initially proposed to show the portraits of the original Supreme Court Justices. In discussions with the Supreme Court, they would prefer to continue to display those portraits inside the courtroom. The Oklahoma Arts Council discussed with them a proposal to go ahead and continue the Hall of Heroes down the north and south of that hall and leave the wall inserts on either side of the entrance of the Supreme Court empty.

C.J. Cavin moved to approve the Capitol Art Reinstallation Plan. Duane Mass seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion passed:

Mr. Branan, yes; Mr. Cavin, yes; Ms. Fisher, yes; Mr. Jones, yes; Ms. Kerr, yes; Ms. Leonard, yes; Mr. Mass, yes; Mr. Mullens, yes; Ms. Morrow, yes.

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the loan of select artworks to the Art in Public Places project at the Oklahoma State Capitol. [Deena Fisher, Jarica Walsh, Director of Visual and Public Art]



Ms. Walsh reported that the Oklahoma Arts Council has been working with the History Center on loans of additional works with the military theme to add to the Hall of Heroes. There are two that were selected to add as additions to that space down at the end of the hall.

The first is of Gordon Cooper by David Phillip Wilson. He joined the Marines during WWII and was one of the original 7 Mercury astronauts. He piloted the Faith 7, May 15 – 16, 1963, and was the command pilot of Gemini 5. He would also be the first Marine in the Hall of Heroes.

The second is Raymond McLain by Howard Chandler Christy. His portrait was painted in 1945, and he moved to Oklahoma City in 1907 at 17. He was a first citizen-soldier promoted to Lieutenant General and was awarded numerous military medals.

Commissioner Fisher reported that the Art Standards Committee met before the meeting and recommended that the commission accept this piece of art.

Nancy Leonard moved to approve the loans of select artworks to the Art in Public Places Project at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Lou Kerr seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion passed:

Mr. Branan, yes; Mr. Cavin, yes; Ms. Fisher, yes; Mr. Jones, yes; Ms. Kerr, yes; Ms. Leonard, yes; Mr. Mass, yes; Mr. Mullens, yes; Ms. Morrow, yes.

7. Discussion and update on the Daughters of the American Revolution Plaque. [Duane Mass, Capitol Architect and Curator]

Commissioner Mass updated the members on the status of the Daughters of the American Revolution plaque.

**8. Collections Manager Report: [Jarica Walsh, Director of Visual and Public Art]
Capitol Re/Installation progress report:**

Walsh reported that the Oklahoma Arts Council's director of collections management recently resigned. They are looking to hire for that position within the next couple of months which impacts the timeline with the evaluation of the Wilson Hurley damaged artwork and the opening of the Betty Price Art Gallery. The gallery opening plans to coincide with the State Capitol celebration in May 2023.

She reported that the Arts Council continues to work on the capitol artwork signage and the didactic text explaining the curatorial plan, which is nearing completion.

She also reported that the Arts Council worked with Tourism in taking on the docents program for the Capitol, which they reported on at the September 2022 special meeting. They have been



working on the program, expanding it, and hiring a curator of education and engagement, Amander Harmer, who was introduced to the members in September. They are currently working on recruiting docents.

9. Chair Updates and Discussion:

Possible presentation and/or discussion on the ongoing state capitol Building construction and Governor's mansion construction:

Commissioner Mass updated the members on the status of the remaining capitol projects. He also updated the members on some projects in progress on the Capitol campus, including the restoration as needed of the Jim Thorpe Building and the north tunnels between state office buildings.

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business, C.J. Cavin made the motion to adjourn. Cliff Brannan seconded the motion. Seeing no opposition, the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.