



151 Martin St., Birmingham, MI 48009  
248-530-1800

**VIRTUAL MEETING - PUBLIC ARTS BOARD**  
WEDNESDAY, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
6:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/92938212385> (Click on Blue Link)

Or dial 1(929) 205-6099, MEETING CODE 929 3821 2385

**MEETING AGENDA**

**\*\*\* Board members who are not able to attend this meeting are encouraged to notify the staff representative in advance for consideration of a quorum. \*\*\***

- A. Roll Call
- B. Approval of Minutes – April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- C. Unfinished Business
  - 1. Piano in the Park**
  - 2. Call for Artists**
  - 3. Online Activities for Residents**
- D. New Business
- E. Communication
  - 1. Crayon Box City Commission Review - Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020**
- F. March Agenda Items
- G. Public Comments
- H. Adjournment

**Upcoming PAB Meeting: June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

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**NOTE:** Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at the number (248) 530-1880, or (248) 644-5115 (for the hearing impaired) at least one day before the meeting to request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

*Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algun tipo de ayuda para la participacion en esta sesion publica deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la ciudad en el numero (248) 530-1800 o al (248) 644-5115 (para las personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un dia antes de la reunion para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual, auditiva, o de otras asistencias.*

## Public Arts Board Minutes

### Public Meeting on Zoom – April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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#### A. Roll Call:

**Members Present:** Linda Wells, Barbara Heller, Monica Neville, Jason Eddleston, Anne Ritchie, Annie VanGelderan, Natalie Bishae

**Members Absent:**

**Administration:** Brooks Cowan, City Planner

#### B. Approval of Minutes – February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Motion to approve minutes made by Annie VanGelderan, seconded by Jason Eddleston.

**Yeas: 7          Nays: 0**

The motion carried.

#### C. Unfinished Business

The PAB reviewed the Terminating Vista report and felt that it summarized their thoughts on ways in which the City may enhance Terminating Vistas throughout downtown. One revision was requested for recommendation number five regarding how the Board wanted electrical boxes to painted with a pop-art theme, but wanted to remove specifying "making small items look big" from the recommendation. There was general consensus from the Board that the recommendations in the report accurately summarized their thoughts on creating a mural program for Birmingham and streamlining the sculpture installation process as a way to enhance Terminating Vistas. A motion to recommend the report to City Commission was made by Linda Wells and seconded by Monica Neville.

Yeas: 7      Nays: 0

The motion carried

The PAB discussed what to do about Piano in the Park 2020 given the spread of the corona virus and social distancing. The Board determined that they would like to provide a piano in Shain Park, but only once all social distancing bans have been lifted in the area. The Board wants to be respectful of peoples' concerns regarding the virus and discussed a best case scenario where a piano is possibly allowed in the park in the fall. There was consensus that they would like to see a draft for a Piano in the Park 2020 program that was contingent upon public spaces being open to everyone once again. This way the Board would have items ready to go when social distancing bans are lifted.

#### **D. New Business**

Creating a Call For Entry pamphlet for sculpture loans and donations was then discussed by the Board. An example from 2006 was discussed, while Board members suggested looking at other organizations' call for entries such as Detroit Artist Market, BBAC and various other art organizations who host sculpture galleries.

The Public Arts Board discussed various ways they could provide interactive art projects to the City during the Corona Virus epidemic. Creating a coloring book out of sculpture images was suggested. The images could be posted on the City's social media and encourage users to learn more about the City's sculptures on other pages in the City's public art website. Users could then submit drawings they have done to the City and have them posted on social media. It was also suggested that various City employees host online coloring time. Another proposal was short videos similar to "The More You Know" could be posted on the City's website which provide fun facts related to different art and architectural elements of the City. Also, as the PAB is unsure if Birmingham in Stitches will occur this fall, it was also recommended that people decorate their front yards with yarn and the City advertise a catalogue of different decorations. City staff would look into what could be accomplished given resources and time constraints.

#### **E. Communication**

Barbara Heller mentioned that she will be hosting a sculpture tour with Detroit Art on October 10<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm.

#### **F. Comments**

#### **G. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



# MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

**DATE:** May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**TO:** Public Arts Board Members

**FROM:** Brooks Cowan, City Planner

**APPROVED:** Jana Ecker, Planning Director

**SUBJECT:** Piano in the Park

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The Public Arts Board began discussions regarding a piano placed in the City in 2018. In 2019, the Board motioned to recommend a piano beneath the pavilion of Shain Park during the summertime with a budget of up to \$750 for painting and moving. The piano was required to have lockable wheels and was to be painted off site.

The painting event was held in the covered parking lot of St. James Episcopal Church which provided adequate refuge from the rain. The lockable wheels and piano dolly provided stable support and could be easily moved by DPS during events in Shain Park. The Piano timeframe was extended to winter time, and was then removed before the end of the year by Professional Movers who have partnered with Detroit School of Rock and Pop Music in assistance for the piano program.

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Public Arts Board considered plans for another year of pianos available in the public. The Board wants to have more pianos for the year of 2020 and considered potential spots around downtown. The Board recommended three locations which are Shain Park, Henrietta just south of Maple, adjacent to Roots, and possibly within the alley connected to Café Via. The Board also wishes to host the painting event at the same time as the Birmingham Fair, which would be May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

On April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020, The Public Arts Board discussed whether or not to continue pursuing Piano in the Park given the COVID-19 pandemic. There was general consensus that the Board should wait until all social distancing requirements were lifted before moving forward with the project. However, the Board felt that when such social distancing restrictions are lifted, they would like to be ready to move forward with the project. In 2019, the Piano stayed in Shain Park until the end of December and the Public Arts Board would be open to the possibility of placing a piano out in the fall if the social distancing regulations were lifted by then.

In 2019, Piano in the Park was treated as a temporary art installation. The piano donor filled out an art application which the Public Arts Board then recommended for temporary installation. The recommendation had to be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Board and then approved by the City Commission.

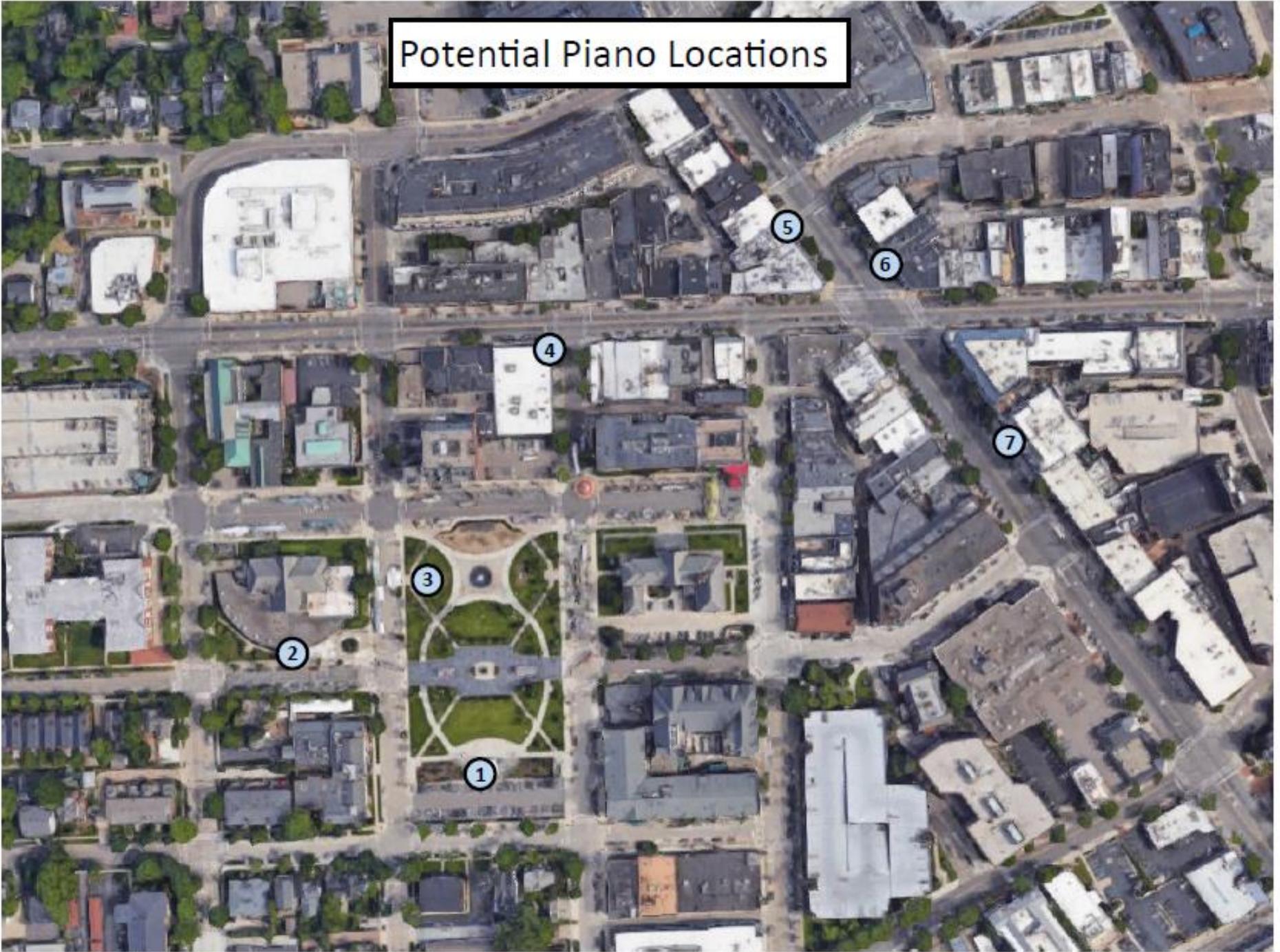
The Public Arts Board may wish to recommend an annual Piano in the Park program to City Commission to help streamline the process over the years. The program would recommend a box piano to be determined by the Public Arts Board to be placed in Shain Park from June to December. The program would follow all previous recommendations that the piano is required to have industrial strength lockable wheels, be covered during Shain Park concert events, be painted off-site and the Public Arts Board would be responsible for coordinating delivery and removal of the piano through their allocated budget. The program would be expected to follow all social distancing requirements as well.

Having an annual program approved would allow the Public Arts Board to move forward without repeating approvals from Parks and Recreation Board and City Commission each year. The Public Arts Board would advertise the program in the spring for a piano donation, review donations, and choose the piano they believe is in the best condition for outdoor use. Remaining donation applications could be considered as back-ups in case the piano deteriorates too much.

Sample Motion Language:

To recommend an annual Piano in the Park program from June to December for a piano to be placed in the pavilion of Shain Park, and that the program follow all recommendations and requirements from Parks and Recreation Board, City Commission, and relevant City departments.

# Potential Piano Locations





# MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

**DATE:** May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**TO:** Public Arts Board Members

**FROM:** Brooks Cowan, City Planner

**APPROVED:** Jana Ecker, Planning Director

**SUBJECT:** Sculpture Call for Entry

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Birmingham has a number of preferred locations for sculptures throughout the City. In 2019, four sculpture pads were installed in various locations and two have yet to have to be designated for a sculpture. Meanwhile, two sculptures were removed at key entryways into the City on Woodward and Maple. The Board has also updated its map of preferred sculpture locations. The Public Arts Board has previously discussed doing a larger call for entry and possibly offering financial incentives. Doing so would require waiting until the budget is approved with adequate financing for the fiscal year of 2020-2021 beginning in July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

The Board discussed creating a call for entry flyer on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and a rough draft example has been attached. Potential items to be mentioned on the flyer could reference some of them items listed below, or it could encourage people to visit the website for more information on such topics:

- Website
- Art in Public Spaces
- Preferred locations
- Loan or donation
- Installation process
- Pinterest

Below is a link to current webpage, as well as a snapshot of what the page looks like. Once finalized this site should have all information necessary for artists interested in loaning or donating a sculpture to the City.

[https://www.bhamgov.org/culture/public\\_art.php](https://www.bhamgov.org/culture/public_art.php)

The City of Birmingham invites you to enjoy the art we have on display and engage a friend, neighbor, or stranger on which piece is their favorite. The [Birmingham Public Arts Board](#) is responsible for assisting in the review and placement of public art installations throughout Birmingham.

#### Public Art Loans and Donations

The City of Birmingham has a number of sculptures located in public spaces throughout town. If you wish to display art on public property, [please download the application](#).

#### Downtown Sculpture Tour & Brochure

Did you know the City is home to 15 art sculptures? Download a [Downtown Sculpture Tour & Brochure Map](#) and discover them today. Make a list of your favorite sculptures and compare lists with friends and family.

#### City Sculpture Coloring Pages

The City of Birmingham encourages those of all ages to color city sculptures using coloring pages provided by the Public Arts Board. [Download the coloring pages here](#) and enjoy!

Snap a picture of your completed page and send it to [socialmedia@bhamgov.org](mailto:socialmedia@bhamgov.org) with the artist's name and age (and any other artist information you'd like posted). Submissions may be featured on the City's social media accounts.

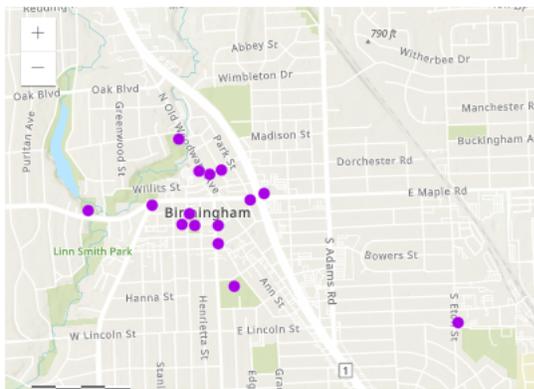
You can find sculpture photos for drawing inspiration on the City's [Art in Public Spaces Pinterest Page](#).

#### Art in Public Spaces

The objective of Art in Public Spaces is to educate the community on the value of public art and enhance the visual character of the community. Learn more about the City's sculpture program as well as its artists in the City's [Art in Public Spaces Pamphlet](#).

#### Sculpture Locations

Scrolling through the map below will include sculpture locations throughout Birmingham, Michigan. Clicking on each location will bring up a photo of each sculpture along with the title and artist name.



# Call For Sculpture Entry

Birmingham, Michigan's Public Arts Board is seeking sculpture applications for donations and loans to be placed in public spaces throughout the City.

Please visit their website to download the application. Here you can also learn more about Birmingham's Art in Public Spaces Program, view the City's Public Art Tour Brochure, the City's sculpture coloring book, and an interactive map of each sculpture and its respective image.

[https://www.bhamgov.org/culture/public\\_art.php](https://www.bhamgov.org/culture/public_art.php)

You may also learn more about the City's sculptures on their Pinterest Page.

<https://www.pinterest.com/BhamPublicArt/>

For more information, please contact:

Brooks Cowan

[BCowan@Bhamgov.org](mailto:BCowan@Bhamgov.org)

(248) 530-1846



**ART IN  
PUBLIC  
SPACES**

**DATE:** April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**TO:** Public Arts Board Members

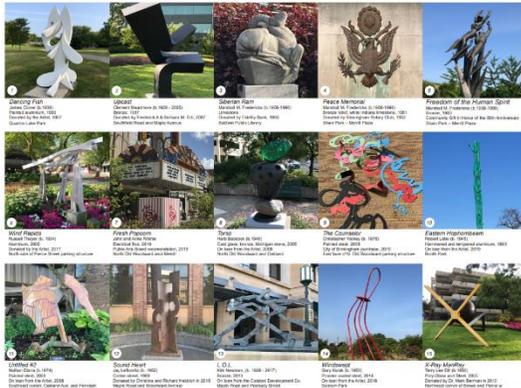
**FROM:** Brooks Cowan, City Planner

**APPROVED:** Jana Ecker, Planning Director

**SUBJECT:** Online Interactive Art

The Public Arts Board has discussed a number of interactive art projects. Many of these were posted online last month on the website and Birmingham's Around Town monthly new article. Such items included a 6 page coloring book of sculptures, a sculpture tour map and pamphlet, and an updated Art in Public Spaces pamphlet. See the website for links and images below.

The plan is to release another 6 coloring pages featuring sculptures and linking information to the website one again. The Public Arts Board may wish to provide comments on coordinating all the online information.



## Art in Public Spaces Program of the Public Arts Board

### HISTORY

The City of Birmingham recognizes the importance of having a rich cultural environment. In 2001, Birmingham affirmed this commitment to its civic heritage by establishing a Public Arts Board. Ordinance #1773 assigned the Birmingham Public Arts Board with the responsibility for reviewing and making recommendations to the City Commission as to the placement and display of loaned, donated and/or commissioned works of art within the City.



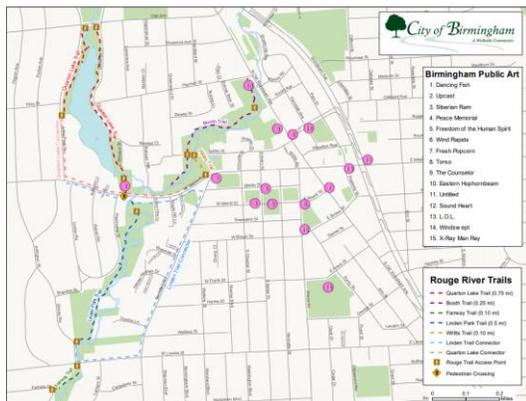
### MISSION STATEMENT

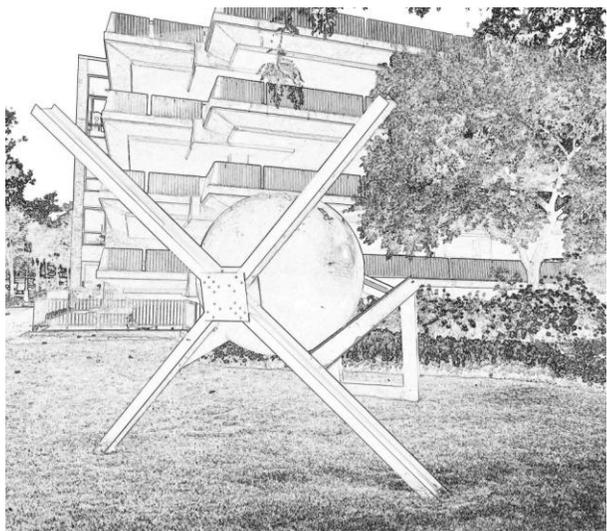
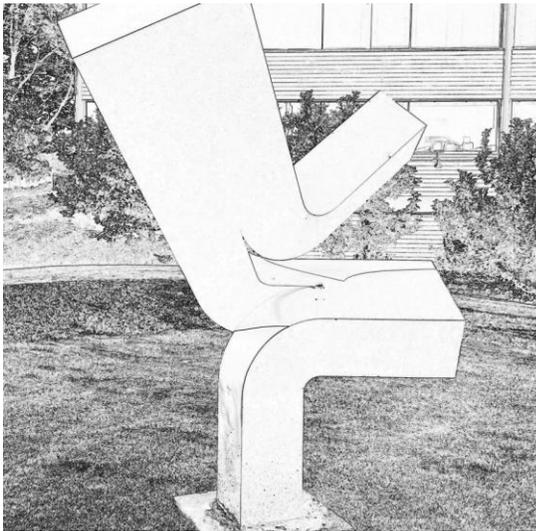
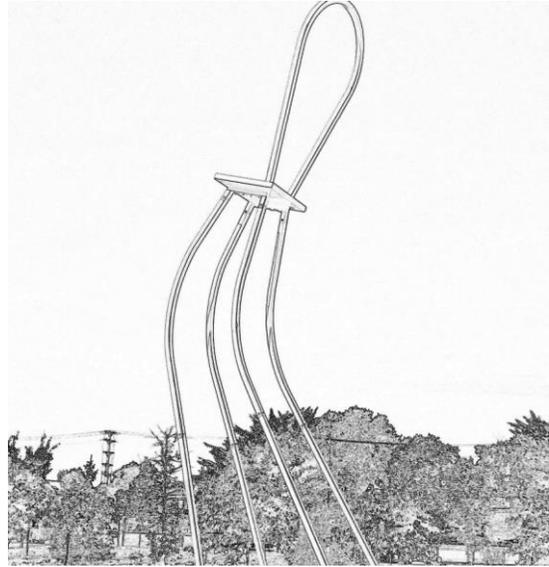
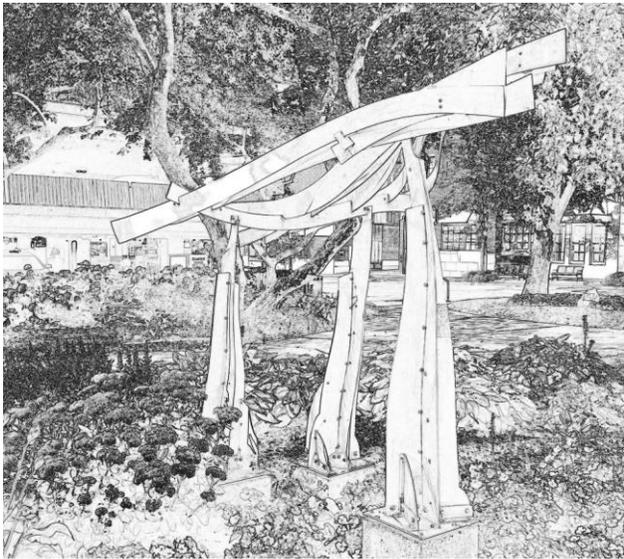
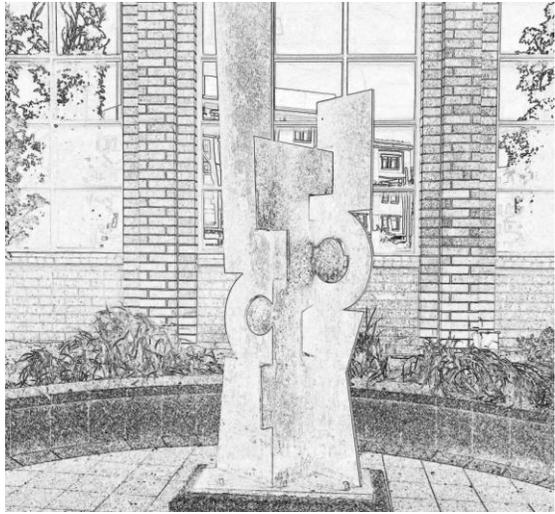
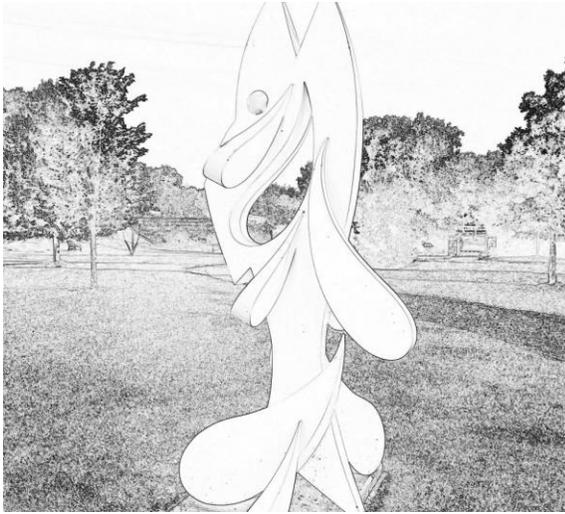
The Mission of the Birmingham Public Arts Board is to develop Public Art Programs that will enhance the cityscape, enrich the lives of residents and visitors, and promote a vital arts community.

### OBJECTIVES

1. Create a vision and develop guidelines and procedures for the placing of public art within the city.
2. Identify potential sites for the display of public art.
3. Establish strategies for identifying and securing sources of public funding and support for public art.
4. Work with organizations, businesses, individuals and the city to maximize the opportunity for public art to be an integral part of all public and commercial projects.
5. Foster the exchange of information and ideas on public art.

It is recognized that public art projects may be presented in a variety of forms and that each proposal is unique. Because of the city's limited resources, the Public Arts Board will only be able to recommend programs that further the objectives of City Commission.







# **MEMORANDUM**

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**Planning Division**

**DATE:** April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
**TO:** Public Arts Board Members  
**FROM:** Brooks Cowan, City Planner  
**APPROVED:** Jana Ecker, Planning Director  
**SUBJECT:** Communications

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1.) Crayon Box Electrical Box painting recommendation scheduled for Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 City Commission hearing.