



**City of Spokane Park Board  
Joint Arts Committee Meeting  
10 a.m. Friday, April 17, 2020  
Zoom teleconferencing meeting**

**Joint Arts Committee members**

- Garret Daggett, Spokane Arts (Absent)
- X Ginger Ewing, Spokane Arts
- X Jim Kolva, Spokane Arts
- X Andrew Whitver, Spokane Arts
- X Jennifer Ogden, Park Board president
- X Barb Richey, Park Board

**Staff**

- X Berry Ellison, Parks
- X Jonathan Moog, Parks
- X Jo-Lynn Brown, Parks
- X Pamela Clarke, Parks
- X Melissa Huggins, Spokane Arts
- X Karen Mobley, Spokane Arts

**Minutes**

1. **Roll call** – See above

2. **Public comment**

A. None

3. **Action/discussion items**

A. Riverfront Park art piece interview process – *Melissa Huggins* welcomed members of the Joint Art Committee; and staff from Spokane Arts, and Spokane Parks and Recreation. A couple of months ago, the JAC reviewed applications from the 26 individuals who responded to the call to artists to create a new art piece at Riverfront Park. The call to artist was a request for a cultural and visual piece which continues the tradition set by public art at the park, such as Ken Spiering’s “Childhood Express,” (Big Red Wagon), and Sister Paula Turnbull’s Garbage Goat. The call specified the following vision for the new artwork and candidates were judged on that criteria, including: 1) art should be interactive, accessible and welcoming; 2) made of durable material suited to an urban park; and 3) artists must work or reside in the Inland Northwest region of Washington, Idaho and Oregon. The siting will be finalized once the artist and artwork has been selected. Four finalists were chosen to interview with the JAC. The JAC’s recommendation will be offered to the Riverfront Park Committee for consideration. The RFP Committee’s recommendation will then be presented to the Park Board for final approval. Ms. Huggins explained 25-30 minutes would be allotted for the artists’ presentations followed by a 15-20 minute, question-and-answer period.

B. Artist interviews – *Melissa Huggins*

- 1) [Whispering Discs](#) – *Ellen Picken* and *Rajah Bose* presented their proposed artwork based on parabolic discs that gather and send sound waves to a focal point positioned as far as 300 feet away. The etched design on the concrete disks would encourage individuals to approach the discs, discover the whisper effect, and encourage visitors to listen and share themselves.
- 2) [The Seeking Place](#) – *Sarah Thompson Moore* presented her proposal which features a virtual walk-through art piece of anodized aluminum posts/panels simulating columnar basalt. LED lighting was included and designed to cast shadows in and around the structure, and columnar basalt seating would be placed within the interactive, maze-like artwork.
- 3) [Beaver](#) – *Saya Moriyasu* presented her proposal, a bronze beaver designed as a swivel sitting area. The concept is based on the artist's story of a beaver named Saka'am, Salish word for moon, who had creative ideas and made a rainbow-colored hat. Park visitors are able to sit on the beaver's tail and swivel the chair in a full circle to enjoy the river and park scenery.
- 4) [Redband trout](#) – *Ean Eldred* presented his idea, a replica and tribute to the redband trout. The large brightly colored trout would be constructed of perforated metal with laminated glass panels, and designed to look out over the river. Mr. Eldred offered three design versions, including Leaping Gateway, Dancing Canopy and Swimming Pavilion which offers visitors the opportunity for a view through the trout's eye.

C. Deliberation – The committee agreed this was a difficult decision as all proposals contained compelling art pieces that would work well in the park. The following comments were shared regarding each presentation:

- 1) [Whispering Discs](#) – While the interactive aspect was of interest, committee members were concerned it was not a unique concept and similar discs may be found in other public areas.
- 2) [The Seeking Place](#) – The committee was favorable to the interactive feature and members said they liked that the artwork celebrated the geologic history that shaped this region. Some committee members placed the artwork among their top two choices.
- 3) [Saka'am](#) – This was the group's favorite art piece. Committee members agreed if a Salish name were included with the artwork that the use of the name would need to be approved by the Spokane Tribe. The committee asked *Karen Mobley* to reach out to Ms. Moriyasu regarding the use of the Salish word to see if the artist could coordinate with the tribe. If an approval from the tribe may not be achieved at this time, in light of the isolation order and that non-essential businesses are closed, there could be a consideration of naming the artwork "The Beaver." *Ginger Ewing* suggested there could be different stories about the beaver which could be added later. *Jennifer Ogden* asked if the artist could consider siting the piece on the north bank or in a less busy location in the park. Committee members felt the north bank needs activation and that the beaver's playful nature goes well with the playground theme. *Jonathan Moog* agreed that the north bank would be a good location for the art but cautioned against having the artwork identified as a playground element. He explained this could diminish the significance of the art. Ms. Mobley suggested inviting the artist back to Spokane to look at site options which would fit within the art plan.

- 4) Redband trout – The committee liked the concept and the interactive nature of the art piece, but felt since there already is a redband trout sculpture at Redband Park in Peaceful Valley, this would be too much of a duplication.

#### 4. **Recommendation**

**Motion #1** – Jennifer Ogden moved the Joint Arts Committee recommend the Riverfront Park Committee select Saya Moriyasu to create a new art piece at Riverfront Park at a location that she will determine at a later time.

Andrew Whitver seconded.

The motion passed with unanimous consent (5-0 vote).

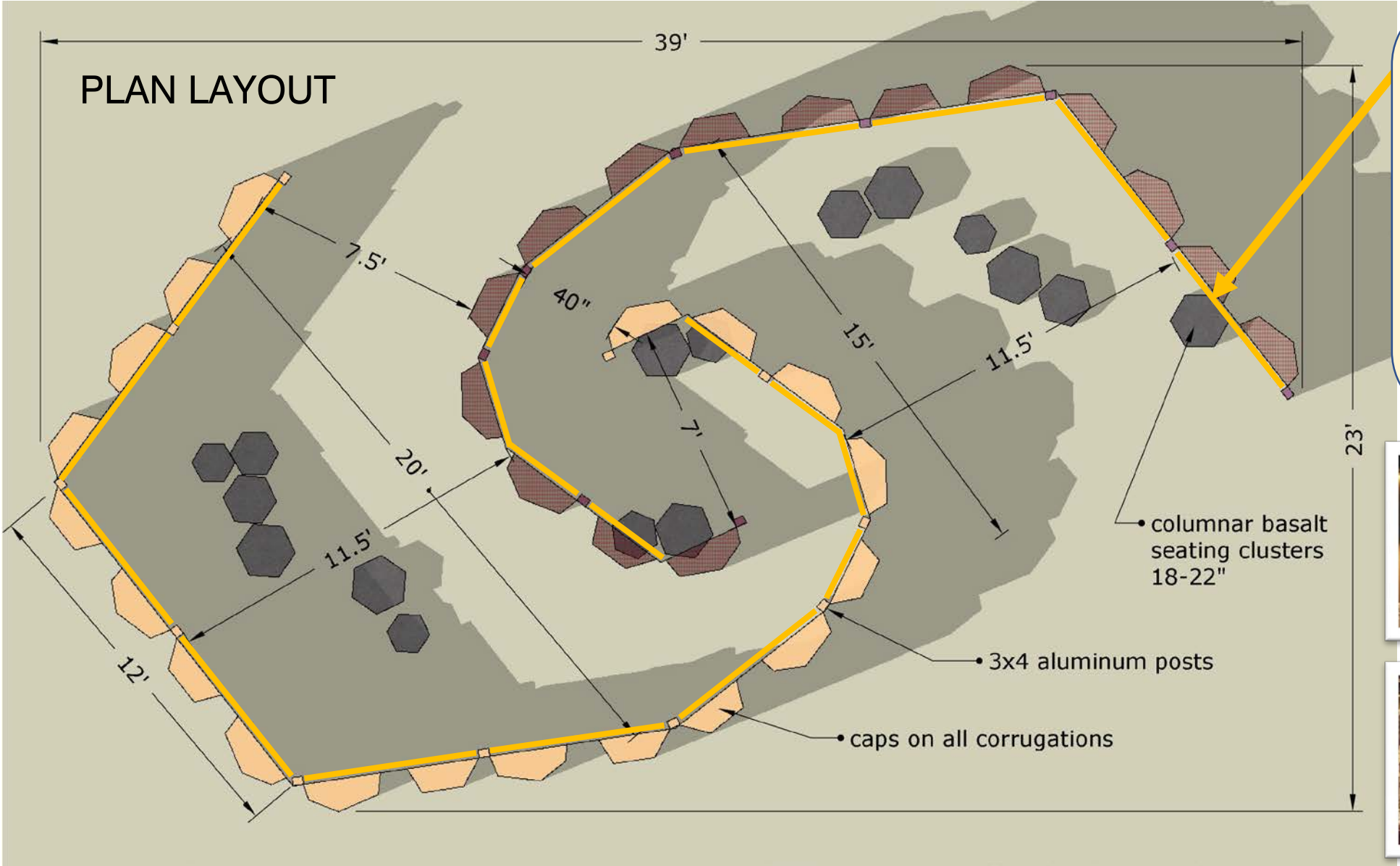
5. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 p.m.



# DESIGN CONCEPT – at a glance



# PLAN LAYOUT



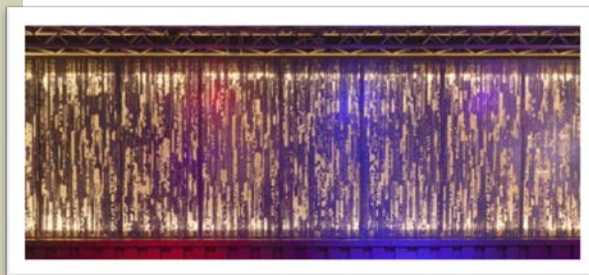
## LIGHTING

- LED strip lighting mounted in a channel at top edge of corrugations.
- Casts light downward causing a glow from within.
- Keeps interior well-lit and highly visible at night.

• columnar basalt seating clusters 18-22"

• 3x4 aluminum posts

• caps on all corrugations





Once upon a time there was a Beaver named Sakiom. Sakiom built a beautiful lodge on the river for all the valley to behold. Sakiom began to have other creative ideas. What if I made a rainbow colored log out of sticks? What if I made a big beaver tail for you to sit on? Instead of a beaver lodge and here it is your time to dream big!



**SWIMMING Pavilion**

**View from River**