

Arts Committee

Tuesday, January 6th, 2026 – 9:00am-10:30am
Virtual Meeting – Zoom

In attendance: David Ginopole (Chair), Kristin Rydholm (Voting Member), Laura Botwinick (Voting Member), Sam Marts (Voting Member)

Guests: Bree Flammini (Screams Everything Studio)

Staff: Luke Scaletta (Community Engagement Coordinator)

Recommendations

Motion 1: The Arts Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$4,000** from line item **1.07 (Print Materials)** to fund the WPB Arts Guide design for galleries and artistic businesses within WPB SSA 33's boundaries. (26-0103)

Discussion: After considering the 8 submissions, the Committee requested to reflect on their top 5 submissions over the following week, before submitting their final vote before Commission on 1/21. As all remaining submissions included a budget under \$3,000, this motion will cover whichever contractor the Committee ultimately selects.

*DG recommends. SM seconds. All in favor. **Recommendation passes.***

Motion 2: The Arts Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$40,000** from line item **2.06 (Public Art)** to fund ten (10) CSE sculptures to be sponsored and installed within the SSA #33 boundaries. (26-0104)

Discussion: The Committee recommended the same number of sculptures as 2025, with the added stipulation to continue conversations with the Bucktown Community Organization to once again co-fund a sculpture, and to clarify priority spots with CSE well in advance of installation.

*DG recommends. SM seconds. All in favor. **Recommendation passes.***

Updates

1. 2026 WPB Arts Guide
 - a. LS developed a voting form for the Committee to submit their final votes, along with verbiage to clarify exactly which artistic spaces will be included in the 2026 Guide for the Committee's review.

2. Ashland/Cortland Sculpture
 - a. Committee opened discussions in 2026 to install a welcoming sculpture in the Northeast entrance of Bucktown under the Ashland/Cortland bridge. LS will develop an RFP to be reviewed by the Committee before release.
3. WPB Utility Box Project
 - a. LS proposed a utility box mural program, similar to those seen in Andersonville. DG inquired about using wraps instead of paint to deter graffiti. LS will develop an RFP for the project.
4. First Fridays
 - a. Committee discussed releasing bandanas for upcoming First Friday events for more recognizable branding. KR shared the bandanas made for Bucktown Arts Fest, and LS has reached out to the artist to receive a quote for unique FF bandanas.

Looking Ahead

1. 1924 W North Ave Painted Benches
 - a. KR recommended asking the owners of the bakery at 1924 W North Ave if SSA #33 could hire an artist to paint the standing benches outside of their establishment to add a pop of color.

Next Meeting – February 3rd