



Item No. 17 Town of Atherton

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT – REGULAR AGENDA

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
GEORGE RODERICKS, CITY MANAGER

FROM: ROBERT OVADIA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

DATE: JULY 17, 2019

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF SCULPTURE DONATION FROM THE
HOLBROOK-PALMER PARK FOUNDATION AND THE
ATHERTON ARTS FOUNDATION; AND AUTHORIZE AN
AMENDMENT TO THE PUBLIC WORKS PARK MAINTENANCE
BUDGET FOR FY 2019/20

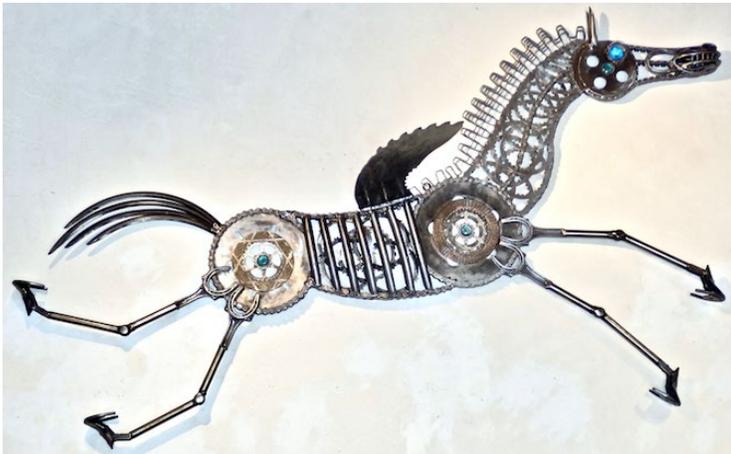
RECOMMENDATION

Accept a sculpture to be donated by the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation; discuss potential locations for sculpture placement; and allocate a budget of \$15,000 for site preparation and installation.

BACKGROUND

The Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation (HPPF) and the Atherton Arts Foundation have been working together to select a sculpture to be a welcoming presence for those coming to the park. The foundations have narrowed their selection to three potential sculptures/monuments as follows:

- 1 *Horse Fly (Pegasus)* – Richard Swenson, a scrap metal sculpture, 81” x 50” x 12”, which would be mounted on a fence or wall.



- 2 *He Ain't Heavy* – Walt Horton, 69" x 30" x 17", which would be mounted on a base



- 3 *Expanding Wholeness* John Ellis, 130" x 50" x 61", which would be mounted on a base



The foundations have indicated a leaning towards *He Ain't Heavy*. They have also discussed the potential of placement outside the park boundaries at the corner of Watkins Avenue at Middlefield Road.

ANALYSIS

Costs

Costs for the sculptures as presented to staff by the Foundations are as follows:

Horse Fly (Pegasus) – \$5,500

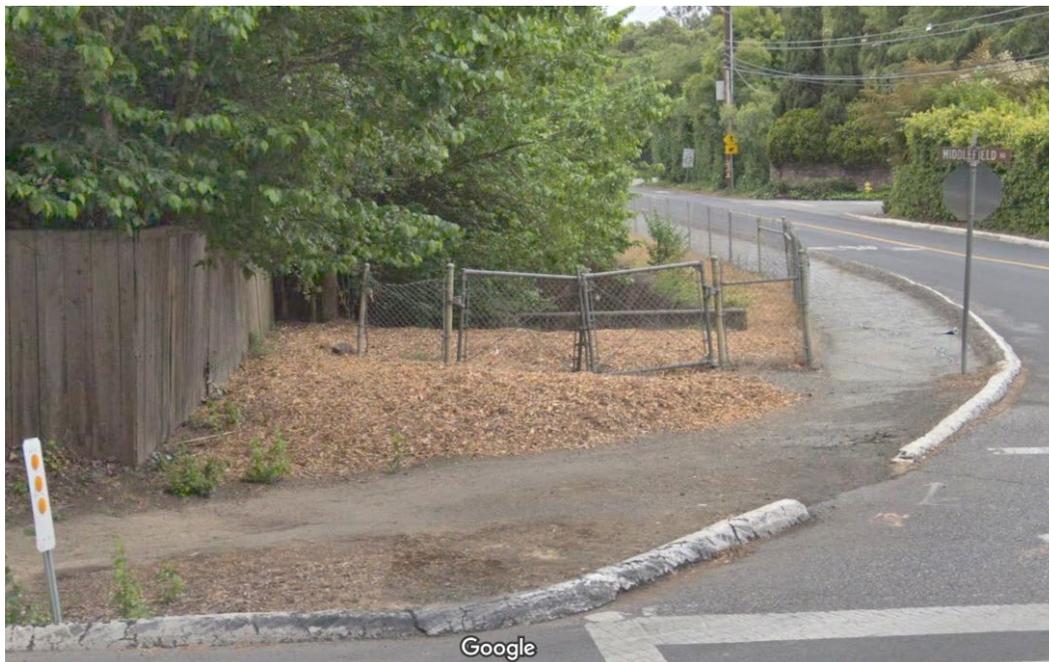
He Ain't Heavy - \$35,000

Expanding Wholeness - \$17,000

These costs may not include tax, shipping and handling, which would be funded by the foundations. Site preparation, foundations (if required) and mounting are not included in the costs outlined above, would vary based on the sculpture and location selected and would be the responsibility of the Town.

Placement

As indicated above, the foundations would like consideration of the Watkins Avenue Middlefield Road intersection. This location is a maintenance access area for the Atherton Channel, where it transitions to a box culvert for the crossing of Middlefield Road and is thus is not an ideal location from staff's perspective.



Other placement options include an alternate location within Holbrook-Palmer Park, or at the Reading Park near the temporary library. Selection of the location can be delegated to the Park and Recreation Committee. Alternatively, the Council may elect to accept the sculpture and retain

for future placement after completion of the new Town Center and Library and the removal of the temporary facilities at Holbrook Palmer Park.

POLICY FOCUS

The Town does not have a formal policy regarding the acceptance of gifts or donations. The City Council discussion should be on the desire to accept the donation, type of sculpture desired, preferred placement of the sculpture.

If or when the Town accepts the art piece and identifies a location for installation, the Town would attempt to secure appropriate releases from the artist(s) and foundations to allow the Town to temporarily or permanently modify, alter, change, relocate or destroy the donated art work. In the event of destruction, the Town could provide a reasonable opportunity for the artist to reclaim the work. The artist would be required to waive any and all rights to the work or representations of the work and the Town would be allowed to use the art piece in any media, documentation, brochures, etc. The Town would add the art piece to our list of property for insurance purposes.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds to place the sculpture and prepare the area for installation will be dependent on the sculpture selected, the type of base desired, and the proposed location. Funding in the amount of \$15,000 should be allocated from the General Fund for site preparation and placement.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with this agenda item being listed, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting in print and electronically. Information about the project is also disseminated via the Town's electronic News Flash and Atherton Online. There are approximately 1,200 subscribers to the Town's electronic News Flash publications. Subscribers include residents as well as stakeholders – to include, but be not limited to, media outlets, school districts, Menlo Park Fire District, service providers (water, power, and sewer), and regional elected officials.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE FEEDBACK/REFERRAL

This item ___ has or X has not been before a Town Committee or Commission.

- Audit/Finance Committee (meets every other month)
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee (meets as needed)
- Civic Center Advisory Committee (meets as needed)
- Environmental Programs Committee (meets every other month)
- Park and Recreation Committee (meets each month)
- Planning Commission (meets each month)
- Rail Committee (meets every other month)
- Transportation Committee (meets every other month)

