



Item No. 5a. Town of Atherton

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

FROM: SALLY BENTZ DALTON – PARK MANAGER

DATE: OCTOBER 2, 2019

SUBJECT: Discussion and consideration of a sculpture donation proposed by the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation.

DISCUSSION

Discussion and consideration of a sculpture donation proposed by the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation, including potential location and orientation of the sculpture. A recommendation may be made to the Council regarding acceptance and placement of the donation.

BACKGROUND

In July 2019, the Town was approached by the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation and the Atherton Arts Foundation to consider a proposal to accept a sculpture donation. Several sculpture options were provided to the Council at that time. The Council indicated their willingness to accept such a donation, provided that the donation included all costs associated with procurement and installation of the sculpture. The Council further directed that consideration of the donation be brought to the Park and Recreation Committee for their input and final review of location in the Park.

Since July, continued involvement of the Atherton Arts Foundation is unclear. However, the Holbrook-Palmer Foundation and Friends of the Park would like to donate and install an art piece in the Park. The piece of art is titled “Expanding Wholeness” by John Ellis (see photo attached). It is from the Shidoni Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico and is made from steel. “Expanding Wholeness” was second on the list of considered art pieces originally presented to the City Council.

At an August 20 meeting that consisted of Betty and Ted Ullman, Alicia Bakowski of Friends of the Park, Marylue Timpson from the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation and the Park and Recreation Committee and Frank Merrill from the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation and the Park and Recreation Committee, a consensus was reached that the John Ellis sculpture would be donated to the Town and was proposed to be located as shown (location attached). The Atherton Arts Foundation (AAF) was not part of the August 20 meeting.

ANALYSIS

Staff raised a few concerns regarding the location of any donated art. Placement:

- should not interfere with the future circulation plan;
- should not be in a location that receives extensive irrigation that might damage the art; and
- should not be in a location that is part of the Park’s “active” use area.

The proposed location is currently a grass area and is irrigated regularly. The circulation plan developed in October of 2017 proposes that the area become a mulch and/or planting area. There are a few new trees proposed to be planted in that area, the location of which could be adjusted (See plan photos attached). Review of the placement should consider potential interference with the irrigation system and if there is a potential for the sculpture to rust if located in an irrigated area.

FISCAL IMPACT

As indicated above, Council indicated their willingness to accept a sculpture donation if all associated costs were included. The estimated cost provided by the Holbrook Palmer Park Foundation for “Expanding Wholeness” is \$37,000 including an allowance for installation in the amount of \$15,000. They estimate a potential discount of \$2,000 on the purchase and intend to request that the Council authorize \$5,000 from the Evans Creative Trust Fund to assist in covering the installation costs.

At this time, for the art piece the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation and Friends of the Park have indicated, a donation of \$17,000; and, intend to request the Atherton Arts Foundation to cover the balance in the amount of \$13,000.

The Atherton Arts Foundation as of their September 3 meeting have not yet agreed to participate in the funding of the sculpture and installation.

“Expanding Wholeness” Statue >>>>

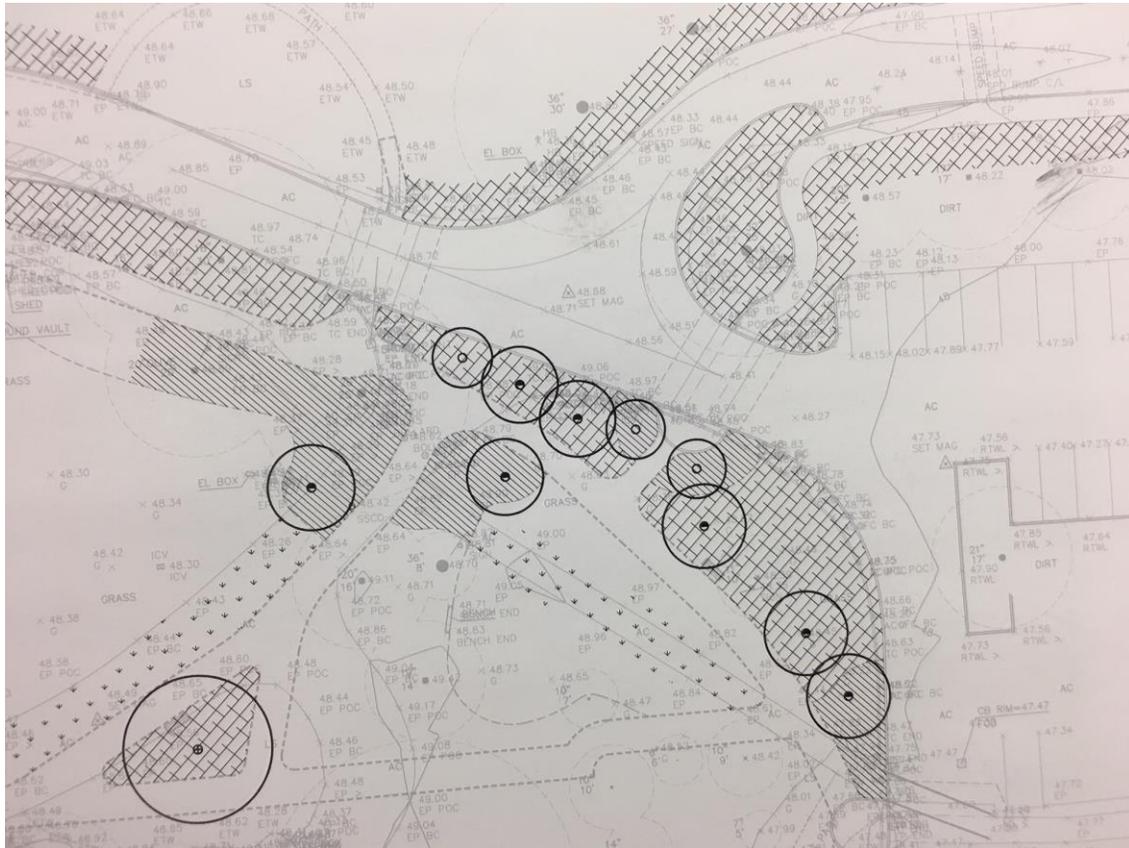


Proposed Location



Circulation Plan Excerpt

PLANTING LEGEND						
SYM	QTY	SIZE	DESCRIPTION	SPACING/ COMMENTS	DTL REF	
TREES						
○	-	-	SMALL ACCENT TREE	-	○	
●	-	-	MEDIUM ACCENT TREE	-	○	
◐	-	-	MEDIUM EVERGREEN TREE	-	○	
⊕	-	-	LARGE SPECIMEN SHADE TREE	-	○	
SHRUBS						
▨	-	-	TBD	-	○	
MISCELLANEOUS						
↓ ↓ ↓	SOD REPLACEMENT, REFER TO SPECIFICATIONS.					
▨	MULCH/PLANTING AREA, REFER TO SPECIFICATIONS.					



Attachment

1. Proposal For Sharing In The Acquisition Of A Sculpture To Be Installed In Holbrook Palmer Park

Proposal For Sharing In The Acquisition Of A Sculpture To Be Installed In
Holbrook Palmer Park



John Ellis

"Expanding Wholeness" Steel 130" x 50" x 61"

Shidoni Gallery, Santa Fe NM

\$17,000

Funds needed

Asking price for sculpture	17,000	
Taxes, shipping, insurance	7,000	Estimate
Mounting and Installation	<u>15,000</u>	Required by town
	<u>37,000</u>	

Offsets (to be negotiated)

Estimated discount on price	-2,000
Reduction in reserve requirement by town	<u>-5,000</u>
Estimated total	<u>30,000</u>

Sources of Funds

Town of Atherton	0	
Friends of the Park	17,000	Accepted proposal
AAF	13,000	Proposed

PLEASE NOTE. A first proposal to the AAF, made 6/13, was based on acquisition of a sculpture entitled "He Ain't Heavy", total cost ~\$45,000. A subsequent meeting held Aug 20 was attended by Betty and Ted Ullman, Alicia Bakowski of the Friends of the Park, Marylou Timpson who is on both the Friends board and that of the Park & Rec Committee, and Frank Merrill who is on the Holbrook Palmer Park Foundation board and that of the Park & Rec Committee. Two members of the AAF were invited but did not attend. A consensus was reached that the John Ellis sculpture, total cost ~\$30,000, be donated to the park and would be located as shown on the accompanying map. After the source of funds has been determined this decision must be presented to and confirmed by the Park & Rec Committee before the City Council can accept the gift. We believe that the AAF charter obligates it to provide support for this gift. If the AAF agrees we recommend that donations from the AAF and the Friends be in rough proportion of the assets of each of these foundations as reflected in the previously proposed contributions of \$20,000 by the AAF \$25,000 by the Friends. That being said any contribution would be welcome.

Betty and Ted Ullman

