



151 Martin St., Birmingham, MI 48009

248-530-1800

## **PUBLIC ARTS BOARD**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

6:15 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/88378200269>

(Click on Blue Link)

Or dial 1 929 205 6099, MEETING CODE 883 7820 0269

### **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 – November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- C. Unfinished Business
  - 1. Marx Sculptures “Untitled 1” & “Untitled 2”
- D. New Business
  - 1. Piano in the Park
- E. Communication
  - 1. Helen Hierta’s “Weathered”
  - 2. Ray Katz “Astral Projection”
- F. Public Comments
- G. Adjournment

**Upcoming PAB Meeting: February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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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 – December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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#### A. Roll Call:

<b>Members Present:</b>	Barbara Heller, Monica Neville, Annie VanGelderren, Jason Eddleston, Anne Ritchie, Natalie Bishae
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Marla Kaftan, Nora Sherifaj (Student Rep) Hadley Lovell (Student Rep)
<b>Administration:</b>	Brooks Cowan, City Planner

#### B. Approval of Minutes – November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

It was noted that Anne Ritchie was not in attendance for the November meeting and that Jason Eddleston was in attendance.

Motion to approve minutes as amended made by Annie VanGelderren, seconded by Monica Neville.

**Yeas: 6                Nays: 0**

The motion carried.

#### C. Unfinished Business

##### 1. Marx Sculptures "Untitled 1" & "Untitled 2"

Staff discussed the conversation that occurred with the owner of the sculptures regarding their placement. The owner had indicated they would like the yellow sculpture at Quarton Lake and for the other sculpture to be placed somewhere more visible for everyone to see. The Chester Street fire station had previously been brought up as ideal location for a sculpture and staff suggested placing it there. The Arts Board evaluated the green space on the east side and west side of the building and determined that they prefer the west side of the fire station. The size of the sculpture would fit well between the window and small landscape gardens and it would be visible from the stop light at W. Maple. Staff indicated they would verify the location with the Fire Department and the sculpture owner before next month's meeting and report back on their input.

##### 2. 2022 Call for Entry

The Public Arts Board continued their discussion for what they wanted to accomplish in their call for entry for 2022. Staff presented suggestions based on previous discussions that involved two artistic benches, one electrical box design, and one artistic crosswalk design.

Board members discussed a preference for recruiting artists for one electric box versus doing a series of electrical boxes throughout downtown. The case for having multiple boxes painted was to have a type of tour to walk around and see the various designs. The

act of painting the electrical box could also be an interactive and interesting site to see. The Board thought it would be fun to select a theme or palette of colors and allow the artists to then paint what they wanted following the guidelines. Staff indicated it is difficult to have proposals like that approved in Birmingham.

Recruiting for four electric boxes and paying each artist \$500 was brought up. Staff brought up the issue that there is limited funding in the budget, and recruiting for multiple artists with a small amount of money may not get the desired results. Primer, paint, materials, and sealant for the popcorn box at Merrill and S. Old Woodward cost around \$350. Given the time requirements to do all of this, \$500 may not be worth it. The Board would have to give up other items such as artistic benches in order to have adequate funding to make it worth the artists time.

Staff commented that the City already has one painted electrical box, and that allocating funding for one quality art project at the electrical box at Hamilton and N. Old Woodward would be more efficient than splitting up funding across multiple boxes. The Arts Board eventually agreed that picking just one would be more efficient financially and time wise.

When asked what projects the Arts Board prefers, there was general consensus that they wanted to prioritize artistic benches, then an electrical box, then the crosswalk painting. Both of the proposed bench locations are in Terminating Vista locations where the Arts Board would like to follow their Terminating Vista report recommendations for artistic furniture. The Board felt that the intersection of Pierce and Merrill was best for a crosswalk painting, given that the street had been closed multiple times already in the past year.

The Arts Board also felt like benches should receive the most money and that funding should be tiered. The board felt that \$3,000 for each bench, \$2,000 for the electrical box, and \$1,000 for painting a crosswalk was adequate.

A motion was made by Anne Ritchie, seconded by Annie VanGelderens, to recommend a call for entry in 2022 for two artistic benches; one at the southeast corner of S. Old Woodward and Brown, the other at the intersection of Pierce and Martin, an artistic design for the electric box at N. Old Woodward and Hamilton Row, and a crosswalk design at the intersection of Pierce Street and Merrill.

**Yeas: 6**

**Nays: 0**

The motion carried.

### 3. Interactive art projects

The Arts Board then discussed interactive art projects for 2022. The Board indicated interest in recruiting multiple chalk artists to do drawings during Day on the Town. Staff would coordinate with the BSD later in January of 2022 when they had time to review where this could be done. The Arts Board also wanted to pursue a piano in Shain Park. Jason Eddleston said he would be able to lead this project. Annie VanGelderens also indicated she would be willing to assist with crafts packages for the Farmers Market once again.

## **D. New Business**

### **1. DIA Inside – Out**

The Detroit Institute of Art approved Birmingham to be a part of their Inside – Out program for 2022. The DIA proposed art work to be posted outside in six locations throughout Birmingham. The Public Arts Board liked the proposals but wanted to pursue having another piece of art installed at the BBAC. Staff indicated they would contact the DIA to inquire about another piece of art.

A motion was made by Anne Ritchie, seconded by Annie VanGelderren, to recommend the temporary installation of the DIAs Inside Out artwork in the proposed locations, and to pursue additional art from the program to be installed at BBAC.

**Yeas: 6**

**Nays: 0**

The motion carried.

## **E. Communications**

Helen Hierta's "Weathered" and Ray Katz's "Astral Projection" were approved by the Parks and Recreation Board and must now complete the art on loan agreements and appear before City Commission.

**DATE:** January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**TO:** Public Arts Board Members

**FROM:** Brooks Cowan, Senior Planner

**SUBJECT:** Marx Sculpture Donation for Untitled #1 and Untitled #2

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Birmingham resident Sue Marx has applied to donate two sculptures titled "Untitled #1" and "Untitled #2" to the City. The sculptures were created by her late husband Stanley "Hank" Marx and are currently located in her front yard.

Untitled #1 was built in 1982 and consists of an angular hollow core steel structure with elegant angles that are welded. The angularity and spacious quality allows for an interactive experience with the form. The sculpture is 8 feet in height with a base that is approximately 8 feet by 6 feet. The sculpture is meant to be placed directly on the ground, it is not meant to be bolted down.

Untitled #2 was also built in 1982 and consists of powder coated & fabricated steel that is angular in nature and golden in hue. The angularity is meant to create an interactive experience with the viewer and late day and early dawn light add to its illumination. The sculpture stands 5 feet in height with a base approximately 6 feet by 6 feet.

Untitled #1



Untitled #2



On October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Public Arts Board began discussing potential locations for each sculpture and recommended locations along the Quarton Lake path. Quarton Lake is close to the owner's home where the artist and his wife enjoyed living since the 1970s. The intersection of E. Maple and S. Eton was also proposed.

On November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, The PAB discussed the potential locations and indicated a preference for either the northeast or northwest greenspace at Quarton Lake and Oak Street. It was also determined that a previously discussed location at E. Maple and S. Eton would not work. Placing the sculptures together side-by-side, similar to how they currently sit in the owner's front yard was proposed for either of the greenspaces at Quarton Lake. The Board also discussed having one sculpture on each side of the lake which could present an opportunity to look across the lake and see each one. It was determined that staff should contact the sculpture owner, and request a preference for suggested locations.

Staff spoke with the owner of the sculpture in the beginning of December, 2021. The owner said she prefers the greenspace on the east side of Quarton Lake at Oak Street for the yellow sculpture. The owner also indicated they would like only one sculpture by Quarton Lake, and that the other sculpture be located in a public space with high visibility.

On December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, staff indicated that the owner would like Untitled #1, the silver sculpture, to be located in a more visible area not along the Quarton Lake Trail. The Chesterfield Fire Station had been brought up at previous meetings as an ideal location for public art and was suggested for Untitled #1. There was general consensus from the Arts Board that the greenspace on the west side of the fire station facing Chester Street would be ideal for this sculpture. The surrounding glass and landscaping would enhance the visual aesthetics of the metallic sculpture.

City Staff spoke with the sculpture owner and the Fire Department about the proposed location. The Fire Department said they would be happy to have the sculpture and that the west side of the building will be a nice location. The owner of the sculpture also liked the location as it would be visible from Mills Pharmacy where she likes to visit.

The Board may wish to discuss where in the Quarton Lake greenspace near Oak Street they wish to have the yellow sculpture (Untitled #2). If the Arts Board is confident using images, they may wish to recommend approval during the meeting. If not, staff recommends a walking tour with board members to select a specific location for recommendation at a later date.

#### Optional Action:

Motion to recommend approval of the sculpture donations by Hank Marx for Untitled #1, to be located at the Chesterfield Fire Station and Untitled #2, to be located in the greenspace at Quarton Lake Trail and Oak Street.



Chester Street Fire Station – Untitled #1



Quarton Lake, West side near Oak Street – Untitled #2





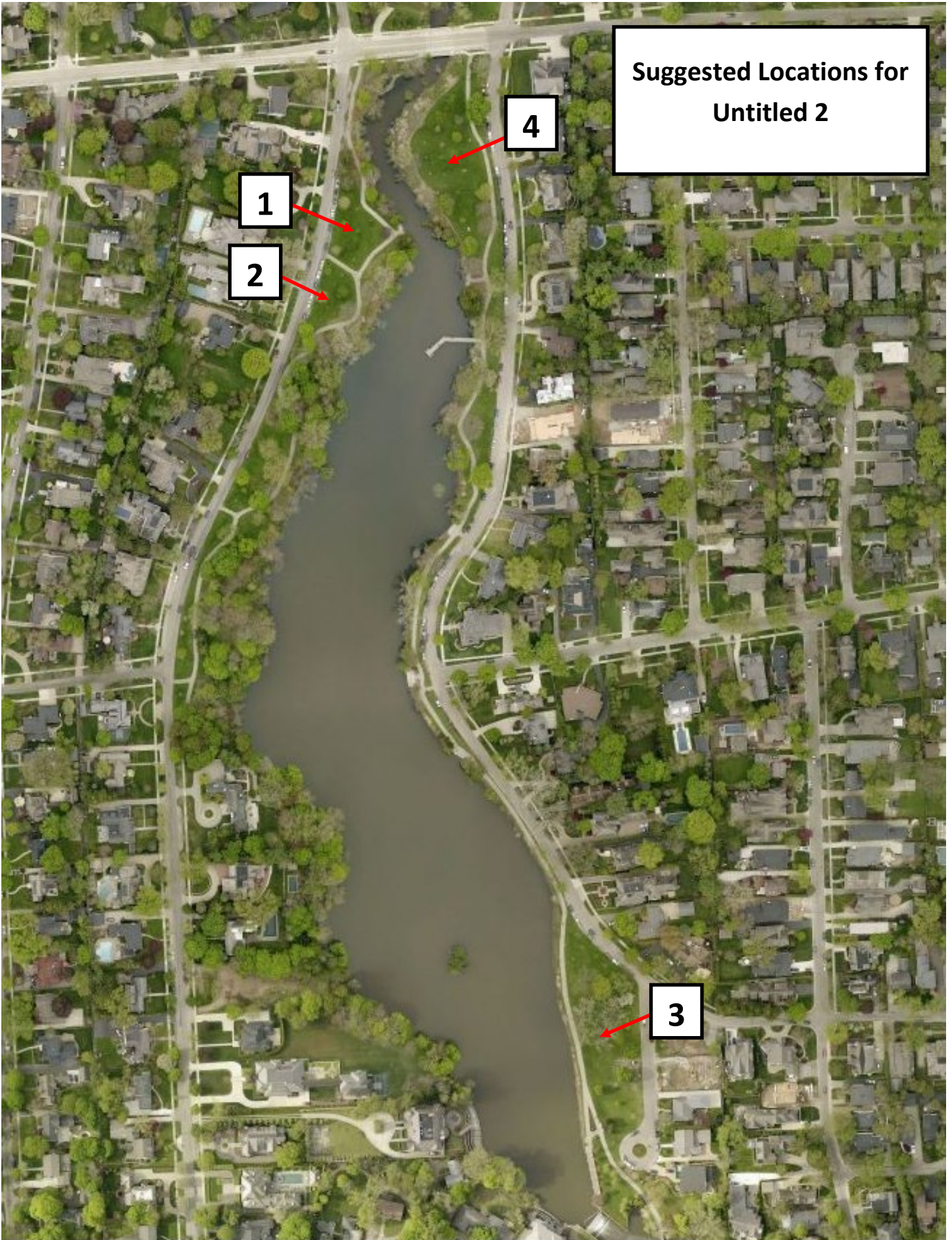
**Suggested Locations for  
Untitled 2**

**4**

**1**

**2**

**3**





**DATE:** January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**TO:** Public Arts Board Members

**FROM:** Brooks Cowan, Senior Planner

**SUBJECT:** Piano in the Park 2022

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The City has received an application for a piano to be installed in Shain Park during the summer. The Public Arts Board assisted with a piano in the park in 2019 and has discussed bringing this program back for another year.

The Arts Board has discussed hosting a piano painting event on Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to coincide with the spring art fair. The board may wish to allocate funds for priming, painting, and sealing the piano to ensure there is enough paint for participants.

In 2019, the painting event was held at St. James Church beneath the covered parking which protected people and the piano from rain, and then the piano was located at Shain Park beneath the pavillion. The Arts Board may wish to pursue these locations once again for 2022. St James Church has indicated they are willing to host the painting event once again if needed.

Below are the conditions of approval from City Commission for piano in the park from 2019:

- Timeframe of June 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> (to be evaluated for timeline extension by CC late August)
- A sign saying "this area is under surveillance" be attached to piano
- Equipped with industrial grade, lockable wheels
- A piano cover provided during Shain Park events
- Painting of the piano occur at a space outside of Shain Park
- The Public Arts Board be responsible for funding the moving of the piano if the City Commission chooses to have the piano removed on or before August 31<sup>st</sup>

An old piano dolly was obtained from Royal Oak Middle School. The old wheels were sawed off and new industrial grade, lockable wheels were installed. The Detroit School of Rock and Pop Music coordinated with a local moving company to have the piano dropped off in Birmingham. The piano was placed on the dolly and rolled to St. James Church where it was sanded and primed. The church provided the City with a large blue tarp to collect any spilled paint for the painting day. Foam brushes, paint, and aprons were provided to participants wishing to paint the piano. Once painted and dried, a layer of sealant was applied. The piano was then pushed to Shain Park and a sign saying "this area is under surveillance" was attached. A large grill cover was purchased and given to DPS for them to cover the piano and wheel it to the side of the pavillion during Shain Park events. In August of 2019, the City Commission approved the extension of the piano installation to be in Shain Park beyond August 31<sup>st</sup>, where it remained until late November.

The Arts Board may wish to discuss how they will coordinate a painting event with the applicant. Staff recommends the Board also discuss the logistics of how the piano will be delivered to Birmingham.

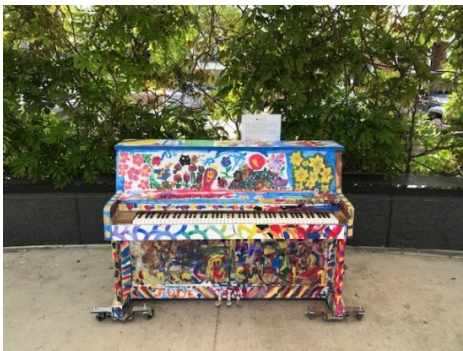
**Recommended Action:**

Motion to recommend the temporary art installation of a piano in Shain Park from May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to the end of November 2022;

AND

Motion to allocate up to \$500 for painting supplies to assist in a public painting event on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**Photos from 2019**



Piano dimensions are 42" in height, 59" in length, and 25" in depth.

Cover for Piano during Shain Park event from "The Cover Store"



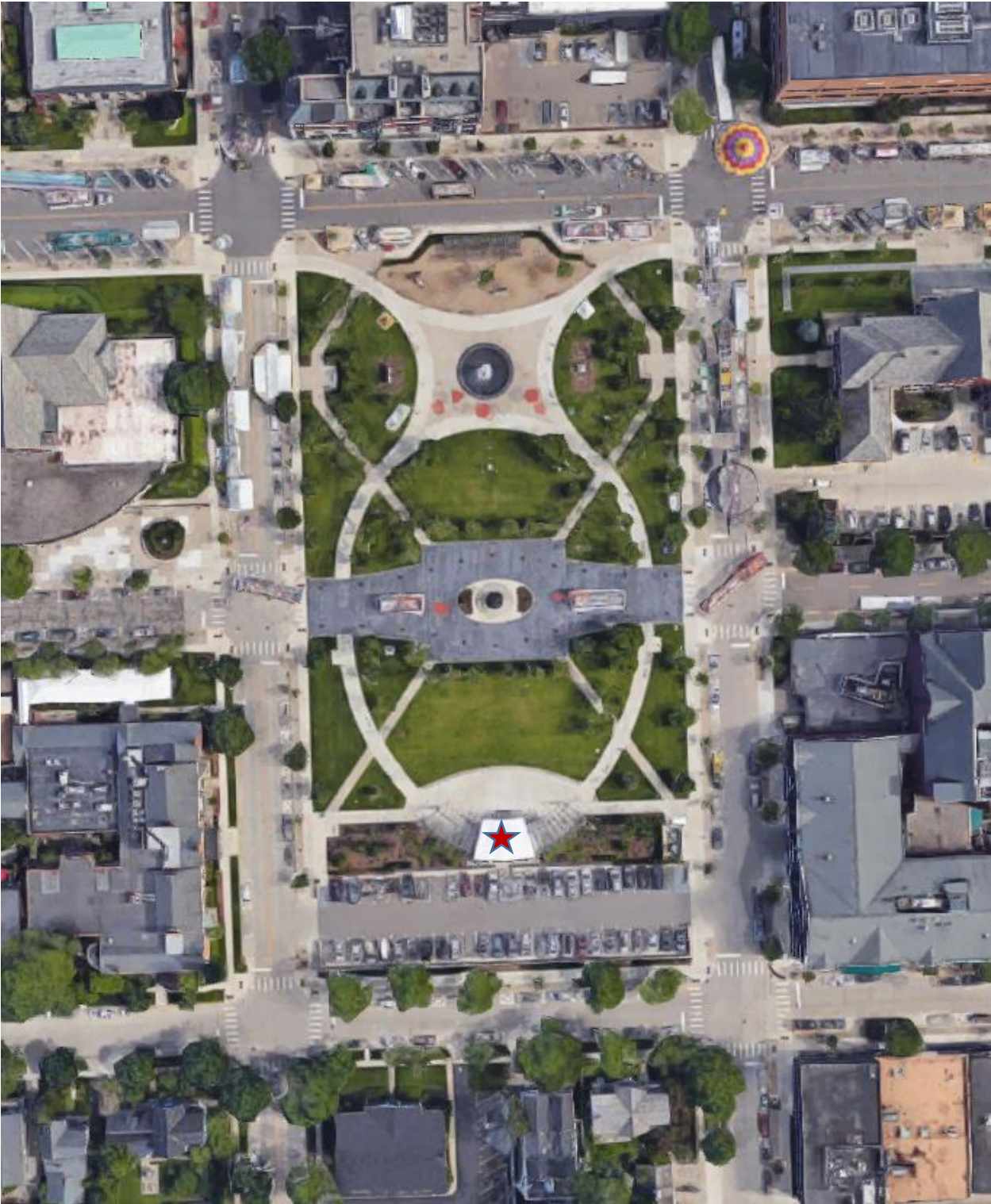
Specifications	Description	Warranty & Care
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 74W x 38D x 44H</li><li>• Made with thick 12-gauge commercial vinyl</li><li>• Elastic hem provides secure fit</li><li>• Mesh vent for breathability</li></ul>		

<https://www.the-cover-store.com/island-grill-covers-123-classic?color=Black>











Cultural Council of Birmingham Bloomfield  
P.O. Box 465 Birmingham, MI. 48012

## APPLICATION FOR ART IN PUBLIC SPACES

Jason Eddleston

APPLICANT NAME

248-703-3808

DAYTIME PHONE

jason28e@yahoo.com

EMAIL

DONOR, OWNER, OR AGENT (DEALER)

Shain Park Piano Temporary Installation

ARTIST (first and last) or PROJECT NAME

Shain Park Piano Temporary Installation

TITLE

5-7-2021 to Fall

Piano

DATE OF ARTWORK

MEDIUM/TECHNIQUE

PROPOSED

☒ DONATION

☐ LOAN

1 Year will be scraped after the year.

DESCRIPTION OF ARTWORK

Used Piano in Great Condition that will be painted on May 7th during Art Birmingham

with oversight from the Birmingham Public Arts Board will be on wheels for easy movement to Shain Park.

60 inch	58 inch	24 inch Depth	700lbs
HEIGHT	WIDTH	LENGTH/DEPTH	WEIGHT

Wood/Steel/Aluminum

OBJECT TYPE(S)/MATERIAL

(i.e., metal, glass, stone, etc.)

No need to have any Load on it will be on wheels for easy movement

DESIGN LOADS

(i.e., wind, and dead loads)

INSCRIPTION/FOUNDRY MARKS

(if multiple, please include edition number)

Shain Park

PRESENT LOCATION OF ARTWORK (where is the work of art?)

Used

CONDITION

Initial Tuning and then nothing else (It will be scraped after used for the year)

MAINTENANCE REQUIRED

(long term care/annual)

\$500

VALUE

☐ APPRAISED

☒ OWNER'S STATED VALUE



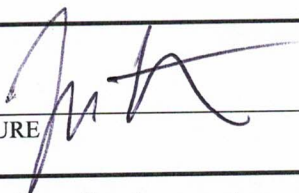
N/A will be on Wheels

FOOTING/FOUNDATION REQUIREMENTS

We installed a Piano in Shain Park in 2019. We had a great event with people painting the Piano before it was installed.

Once installed it brought a lot of joy to kids, parents and others who stopped by played it.

NARRATIVE/RATIONALE FOR GIFT/LOAN/TEMPORARY INSTALLATION

  
SIGNATURE

12-21-2021

DATE

\*\*\*Submit application together with **prints or digital images of artwork, foundation plans, completed Outdoor Sculpture Agreement (if temporary sculpture), and a vitae or resume of the artist** to:

City of Birmingham

Attn: City Clerk – c/o Public Arts Board  
151 Martin St.

P.O. Box 3001

Birmingham, MI 48012

PAB Action (Office use only)

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Presented for Public Arts Board discussion: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Action: ☐ Recommended for approval ☐ Not recommended for approval

Insurance: ☐ Provided by CCBB ☐ Provided by City ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation(s)/Action Taken \_\_\_\_\_

Routing and dates approved (Office use only):

Y N

☐ ☐ Planning \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ☐ Engineering \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ☐ Public Safety (Police/Fire) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ☐ Parks and Recreation \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Approved by CCBB \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Approved by City Commission \_\_\_\_\_

Y N

☐ ☐ Building \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Site Location \_\_\_\_\_

(If artwork is to be permanently donated, the City of Birmingham may provide required insurance.  
If artwork is to be on temporary loan, the CCBB may provide required insurance.)



## **MEMORANDUM**

**Planning Division**

**DATE:** January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**TO:** Public Arts Board Members

**FROM:** Brooks Cowan, City Planner

**SUBJECT:** Communications

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1.) Helen Hierta's "Weathered" was recommended for approval at the Parks & Rec Board on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Ray Katz's "Astral Projection" was recommended for approval at the December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Parks & Rec Board. The Planning Division is waiting on finalized loan agreements before going to City Commission for final approval.

2.) Call for entry is anticipated to go before City Commission in February of 2022.