

## Staff Report

**NEIGHBORHOOD ART ACQUISITIONS**

April 27, 2017

Included in the Public Art Commission's 2016/17 is a \$14,600 budget allocation for the acquisition of sculptures under the Neighborhood Art program. This program provides for sculptures from the previous year's Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition (AAOSE) to be purchased and placed in neighborhoods around the City.

The Public Art Commission is now recommending that Council authorize the purchase of two sculptures for the Neighborhood Art Program. It should be noted that, in December, the City Council authorized the purchase of another AAOSE sculpture, **Timeswept**, to be placed at the Ames Municipal Airport.

During the 2016/2017 exhibition year, **A Peculiar Family** by Steve Reddell was displayed at the southwest corner of Main Street and Grand. It is proposed that this sculpture be purchased for \$5,500 and it will be placed on the east side of the retention pond at Stange and Roxboro. **A Peculiar Family** was voted **Best in Show** by attendees at the Reiman Garden Art Show and the Octagon Art Festival. The application for this placement came from Adam Rash, president of the Northridge Heights East Homeowners Association. Here is a link to a recent article about the artist that appeared in ArcWelding: <http://www.thefabricator.com/article/arcwelding/the-peculiar-world-of-metal-sculpture>.



The second sculpture recommended for purchase is **The Other Extreme** by Tim Adams. This sunburst has been on display at the northwest corner of Tom Evans Park, near Bar La Tosca. The new location is on the existing pad at Harrison Road and Harrison Circle. The cost for this sculpture is \$5,500. This year the Neighborhood Sculpture Committee received five applications. The application for this placement was submitted by Jo Rod, a resident of the Bloomington Heights neighborhood.



Decisions on where to place the sculpture were influenced by whether art had been placed in the requested neighborhood or a

nearby one, and if the art would be located in an area accessible for viewing by all the residents of Ames. Safety was the most important consideration. Price and workmanship were also important considerations.

These two purchases will utilize \$7,800 of the \$14,600 budget allocation. Since the cost of the remainder of this year's AAOSE sculptures significantly exceeds the remaining balance, the PAC will propose that the savings be carried forward into 2017/18 for next year's purchases. The Public Art Commission feels that these two acquisitions will be memorable additions to the neighborhoods and to the City's public art collection.