

In attendance: Jennifer Williams, Robin Moses, Doug Weidenbach, Lewis Kuhlman, Dick Record, Elmer Peterson (sculptor) Jason Gilman, Scott Cheek, Gary Pedeski, David Marshall, Roald Gundersen, Mike Martino, Mary Cleary, Nathan, Nicole Flottmeier (Cousin Ashton Hall - mural interest)

Identities of La Crosse:

Ideas discussed included references to the river (crossing over, a gateway, crossroads, meeting place, gathering place, confluence), playing with the idea of districts and neighborhoods (North Side, French Quarter? West End? Arts District, Theatre District, etc.), thinking about the railroad and industry and its relationship to ingenuity, sustainability.

Major commitments and Themes:

Inclusivity: the park (and its art) should be inclusive and accessible to all.

Sustainability: the park (and its art) should be sustainability-built and make use of local landscape and resources, invasive species eradicated

Ephemerality: the park (and its art) should be transitory, evolving, unfixed--artists could come for residencies and then the artists would also be ephemeral, in a way

Roadblocks and Concerns:

Timeframe: How long is this going to take? Who needs to be involved for it to be successful?

Budgetary: where will the funds come from to build and sustain the park and its art? How can we develop and access and sustainable fund?

Compromise: the vision must be clear and focused--too much compromise waters down vision and results in something no one is happy with

Safety: we need to consider how to make the park safe for all people, including women and children, ideally at any hour of the day or night

Family-friendly: relatedly, children should feel welcomed there and able to be engaged and play with the art

Possible partnerships: City of La Crosse, WisCorp, Fish and Wildlife, Army Corps, DNR.