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**Grant Park Advisory Council**

**Committee on Art, Monuments & Markers**

**Meeting Notice**

**Second Step of Review Process of Christopher Columbus Statue – Public Comment**

**9/8/2020 @ 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

**Location: Zoom** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIkcuurqj0pGNVwOKaWkq6kOWuccOt_QWo->

(After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting)

The Grant Park Advisory Council (Council) was organized under Chicago Park District rules to make recommendations concerning Grant Park. Leslie Recht is currently President of the Council. In June, 2020, the Council created its Committee on Art, Monuments & Markers to make recommendations to the Council concerning existing or proposed art, monuments or markers in Grant Park. This Committee is chaired by the Vice President of the Council, Jim Wales, and it is composed of individuals with expertise in the arts, history, cultural affairs and also members of the Council.

Due to the protests concerning the Christopher Columbus sculpture in Grant Park, the Committee took up the review of this sculpture as its initial concern. In its principles for its review process, the Committee recognizes that any discussion must include an historical analysis, a review of the reasons for the initial installation of the sculpture and also consider current ideas of equity and justice. **The Committee’s process includes discussions among Committee members and also requires public input through oral and written testimony.** **The Committee plans to take oral testimony from 6-8pm on September 8 via a zoom meeting.** The Committee will review all comments and will make its written recommendation to the Council by early October. There may be a majority and a minority recommendation. The Council will vote on the recommendation of its Committee and will pass along its own recommendation to the Chicago Park District.

If one wishes to make an oral presentation, after registering to attend the meeting,  one will also need to register to present, prior to September 8 with Jim Wales at [vpgpacchicago@gmail.com](mailto:vpgpacchicago@gmail.com). Registration to attend as well as present will be limited and will be handled on a first come first served basis. Presentations are limited to 2 minutes. Groups are asked to appoint a spokesperson to make their oral presentations. At this time, plans are underway to livestream the meeting as well.  Written comments can be submitted until September 25, 2020, by submission to [vpgpacchicago@gmail.com](mailto:vpgpacchicago@gmail.com).

**Potential Advisory Recommendations to Be Made by Committee Based on Specific Exhibit**

1. **No action is deemed necessary**—monument can be returned without any additional action.
2. **Re-contextualization**—return monument but provide new or additional context
3. **Relocation**—relocate to another Park District site. Alternatives include relocation or long-term loan to cultural organizations, museums, or relevant historical, cultural, or educational settings.
4. **New temporary or permanent works**—commission new artworks in any medium including sculpture, performance, and socially engaged art in order to foster public dialogue on polarizing historical moments and to amplify additional or excluded voices and underrepresented histories.
5. **Make Removal Permanent**