



METRO ARTS

NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

**Metro Arts Commission
Minutes of the Public Art Committee
August 5, 2020**

This meeting took place via teleconference.

A recording of the meeting can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVgyaAXSH1A&feature=youtu.be>

Attending Members: Niki Coffman (chair), Campbell West, Alejandro Acierto, Paul Collins, Donna Gilliam, David Jon Walker

Absent Members: Omari Booker

Staff: Van Maravalli, Tré Hardin, Atilio Murga, Anne-Leslie Owens, Emily Waltenbaugh, Grace Wright

Guests: Charda Johnson (Metro ITS)

A. Call to Order

Commissioner Coffman called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and made a roll call of all members present.

B. Vote on Governor's Executive Order No. 16

A motion that the meeting agenda constitutes essential business of this body and meeting electronically is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Tennesseans considering the COVID-19 outbreak and is permitted under the Governor's Executive Order number 16 was offered by Paul Collins and Alejandro Acierto seconded.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative.

C. Welcome – Van Maravalli, Public Art Manager

Van Maravalli reviewed the typical Percent for Art Public Art selection processes in advance of discussing changes to the procedure.

D. Kossie Gardner Sr. Park (formerly Jefferson Street Pocket Park) Project Design & Budget

Tré Hardin presented an update on the Kossie Gardner Sr. Park Project. He introduced a proposed Community Advisory Panel which resemble a typical Citizens Selection Panel with additional involvement in developing selection process and potential compensation.

Tré Hardin aske the Committee for their opinions and insights on the following:

- How do PAC members feel about remodeled approach?
- Potential Partnering Organizations
- Other Questions & Thoughts

The Committee asked for clarity about the temporary nature of the project and whether one or multiple artists would be involved. Staff clarified that artists and artists teams would be eligible and that staff will be looking towards potential partners with other Metro and community partner projects.

The Committee asked for clarification on whether this would become a Public Art best practices. Staff answered in the affirmative and explained a concern with rethinking the Public Art process with a priority towards the community. Staff also explained that due to limited capacity the space will be co-managed and co-funded, which could be a further conversation.

The Committee offered that this should be a publicly shared process.

A motion to approve of \$50,000 budget, selection process for the inaugural installation of the rotating public art canvas at Kossie Gardner Sr. Park was offered by Paul Collins and Donna Gilliam seconded.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative.

E. Public Art Acquisitions/Art WORKS Phase II Selection Process

Anne-Leslie Owens reviewed the previous PAC recommendation to fund Art WORKS Phase II and the benefit to local artists. Additionally, Anne-Leslie suggested that the Phase II program could center around a theme that was both related to the current crises but is also timeless. She invited committee discussion regarding the project selection criteria and the make-up of the selection panel including:

- Who would make up the selection panel?
- How many submissions, up to 3 per artist?
- If multiple submissions were allowed, would we limit purchase to one artwork from a single artist?
- Are artists with artworks in Phase I Art WORKS eligible for Phase II?

The Committee discussed making sure that the acquisitions were open to new artist communities as opposed to people who have been chosen previously. There was the suggestion of a more pointed emphasis on artist need.

The Committee recommended that galleries should not be able to submit. They should be able to represent artists. Staff clarified that a gallery could submit for artists but that that

artist could not then submit individually. Additionally, it was noted that purchases of local art from galleries does incentivize them supporting local artists.

Regarding the number of allowed submissions, The Committee inquired about whether three submissions would be overwhelming. Staff clarified that the multiple submissions would only affect the process.

The Committee also recommended an emphasis on reaching artists that are generally underserved, may not have internet, have been deeply impacted by these crises, and do not have gallery representation.

Regarding the purchase of artwork, The Committee recommended purchasing a single artwork per artist

Regarding the eligibility of artists whose artworks were previously purchased, after some discussion, The Committee recommended that while artists who have had work previously purchased should be eligible but there should be a concerted effort to make sure that the Phase II collection is diverse and that artists not previously selected should apply. Additionally, it was proposed for consideration that current need could be considered.

There was discussion of artwork price points and budget.

The Committee noted that when creating the selection panel outside voices should be considered as well as inviting additional non-male voices to the conversation.

A motion to approve a selection panel for the Public Art Acquisition/Art WORKS II to be composed of:

- ***Donna Gilliam, chair***
- ***Commissioner Niki Coffman***
- ***Paul Collins***
- ***Alejandro Acierto***
- ***David Jon Walker***
- ***Omari Booker, tentatively***
- ***And two panelists outside of PAC***

was offered by David Jon Walker and Alejandro Acierto seconded.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative.

F. Project and Program Updates

Public Art Manager Van Maravalli presented updates on the following:

- NEA Connectivity Creates: Madison On My Mind
 - There is a call for submission from Madison-based artists/creatives only currently open and will close Monday, August 24th.
- Mill Ridge Redesign
 - Staff is working on redesign in partnership with Metro Parks and Daily tous les jours
 - Next Steps will include finalizing the Contract Amendment, and then DTLJ will begin the redesign process.
- Public Art Maintenance & Collection Management
 - Light Meander will be receiving maintenance and updates.

G. Adjourn

Commissioner Coffman adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.