



METRO ARTS

NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

**Metro Arts Commission
Minutes of the Public Art Committee
September 30, 2020, 12:00 p.m.**

This meeting took place via teleconference.

A recording of the meeting can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rs0irY8Z8kQ>

Present Members: Niki Coffman (chair), Alejandro Acierto, Omari Booker, Paul Collins, Donna Gilliam, David Jon Walker

Absent Members: Campbell West (Commissioner)

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

Guest: Matthew Mazzotta (**Artist**), Brandon Ward (**Metro ITS**), CM Nancy VanReece

A. Call to Order

Commissioner Coffman called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and made a roll call of all members present.

Commissioner Coffman welcomed special guest, Council Member Nancy VanReece, chair of the Metro Council Committee for Parks, Library, Arts and Recreation.

B. Vote on Governor's Executive Order No. 60

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 60 was offered by Alejandro Acierto and Donna Gilliam seconded.

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

C. Welcome – Van Maravalli, Public Art Manager

Van Maravalli welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced the departure of Commissioner Coffman. She thanked Commissioner Coffman for her service.

Commissioner Coffman shared with the Committee that she had been honored to do this work and would hopefully continue it in her new home.

D. Madison Rises project proposal

Public Art Project Coordinator Atilio Murga provided the Committee with a recap of the actions and community engagement put towards this project already. Then he passed the presentation to artist Matthew Mazzotta to present the proposed design for the Madison Public Library location.

CM VanReece shared with the Committee that the project had both community and her support as the CM for that district. She also noted some logistical concerns to be addressed in the next phase of the project.

The Committee commended the project and brought up concerns regarding maintenance. Mr. Mazzotta assured the committee that he works with fabricators and engineers with the goal of simple operation and maintenance. He also addressed some other additional concerns and highlighted the utility of the space for the Madison community.

Van Maravalli and Mr. Mazzotta also highlighted the potential programming and potential overlap with the Art WORKS 2.0 initiative in progress.

A motion to approve the Madison Rises public artwork design for the Madison Branch Library was offered by Alejandro Acierto and Donna Gilliam seconded.

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

E. Review of selection process guidelines (Public Art Guidelines)

Public Art Project Manager Tré Hardin proposed and explained the following changes to the selection process in the Public Art Guidelines:

- Allow for panels to have up to eleven members
- Clarifying guideline language to require that at least one panelist be a current resident from the community in which the project occurs.
- Additional Panelist Responsibility:
 - If needed, provide community input to identify specific goals and criteria for the project.

A motion to approve the proposed changes to the Public Art Guidelines was offered by Donna Gilliam and Alejandro Acierto seconded.

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

F. FY21 Thrive Public Art Project Proposals

Strategic Funding and Initiatives Manager Janine Christiano presented the FY21 Cycle 1 Thrive applications with public art elements for technical review by the Committee.

She covered project summaries, logistical information, location, and artistic samples from the following projects:

- **Black Lives Matter Movement Coalition Mural**
- **Pikes Project Poetry Billboard South Nashville**
- **Welcoming Mural**
- **Creative Girls Rock Mural**

A motion to approve the proposed FY21 Thrive projects was offered by Alejandro Acierto and Omari Booker seconded.

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

G. Set Next Meeting

The Committee discussed scheduling availability for the November meeting to be confirmed after the meeting.

H. Adjourn

Commissioner Coffman adjourned the meeting at 1:07 p.m.