



# METRO ARTS

NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

## MINUTES

### Public Art Committee

April 13, 2023, 11:00AM-12:30PM

Metro Office Building

Nashville Room

800 President Ronald Reagan Way/ 800 2nd Ave S

Nashville, TN 37210

If you have any questions, please e-mail [arts@nashville.gov](mailto:arts@nashville.gov).

**Committee Members Present:** Campbell West (Chair), Sara Lee Burd, Lakesha M. Calvin, Stacey Irvin

**Committee Members Absent:** Paul Polycarpou (Commissioner), Shaun Giles, Donna Gilliam, Matia Powell (*ex-officio*)

**Metro Arts Staff Present:** Atilio Murga, Anne-Leslie Owens, Jesse Ross, Daniel Singh, Nyamal Tuor

A. Call to Order

Chair Campbell West called the meeting to order at 11:23 am

B. Approval of Minutes: January 12, 2023

***A motion to approve the January 12, 2023 meeting minutes was made by Sara Lee Burd. Lakesha M. Calvin seconded and the motion passed.***

C. Welcome

Chair Campbell West welcomed new Public Art Project Coordinators Jesse Ross and Nyamal Tuor and new Public Art Committee Members Lakesha M. Calvin and Stacey Irvin.

D. Action Items:

1. Donelson Library Public Art, Interior (Final Design)

Public Art Collection Manager Anne-Leslie Owens provided a recap on the Donelson Library construction project and the location and \$150,000 budget for an interior suspended artwork. The building is expected to be completed Spring 2024.

Artist Amber Lelli of Mt. Juliet was selected through a competitive process to design and create the interior artwork.

In Spring 2022, a citizen selection panel chose local artist Amber Lelli to design and create the suspended artwork for new the Donelson Library. Over the summer and fall she engaged with Donelson residents at four community events—Hip D Farmers Market, Donelson Library storytime and music programs for young library patrons and their families, and McGavock High School Art Class.

These conversations and activities provided the artist with valuable information about why people choose to live in Donelson and what they feel best identifies Donelson as a special place. Community members repeatedly commented on Donelson’s greenway, river, parks, outdoor activities, wildlife, and farmland.

The artist’s design focuses on the flora/fauna, landscape, and history of Donelson. The components consist of flora/fauna, a landmass, and a waterfall/river. The proposed materials include stainless steel rods, PVC for the wave pieces, cast plastic with armature insert, SpectraChrome finish, faux oak finish painting. The sculpture will be a total of 28’ long by 17’ high.

From the second-floor children’s area, viewers will experience a chromed whimsical landscape consisting of 21 plants that are Tennessee natives 14 animals. The chrome-on-chrome effect of the animals and plants together creates a fun finding game for the children’s floor in which they can engage with the sculpture to find all the hidden wildlife. The flowers range in heights from 1’ to 7’4”.

***A motion to approve artist Amber Lelli’s design for a suspended sculpture for the Donelson Library Interior Public Art Project was made by Sara Lee Burd. Chair Campbell West seconded and the motion passed.***

## 2. Old Hickory Community Center (Artist Semi-Finalists)

Public Art Project Manager Atilio Murga provided a recap on the Old Hickory Community Center construction and the public art location and \$250,000 artist budget. The citizen selection panel met twice to score artists who applied to this national call. The panel recommends the following four artists as Semi-Finalists. Murga shared a few samples of each artist’s work:

- Ben Butler, Memphis, TN
- Cliff Garten, Los Angeles, CA
- FreelandBuck, Brooklyn, NY
- Gordon Huether, Napa, CA

***A motion to approve Ben Butler, FreelandBuck, Cliff Garten, and Gordon Huether as artist semi-finalists for the Old Hickory Community Center public art project***

***was made by Chair Campbell West. Lakesha M. Calvin seconded and the motion passed.***

E. New Business/Old Business

No new business or old business.

F. Public Art Committee Orientation

1. Public Art Process and Resources
2. Projects in Progress
3. Upcoming Projects

In the interest of time, the Public Art Committee Orientation was moved to virtual 1:1 meetings. Public Art Collection Manager Anne-Leslie Owens will reach out to Lakesha M. Calvin and Stacey Irvin to schedule.

G. Adjourn

With no further business, Chair Campbell West adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.