

SMYRNA PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Minutes - Final



Rickey N. Oglesby, Jr, Council Member/Chair
Vanya Foote, Committee Member
Robert Harrison, Committee Member
Charles Rhome, Committee Member
Burke Scott, Committee Member
Tracy Styf, Committee Member
Imani Thomas, Committee Member
Anna Talarico, Designing Local Consultant

A. Max Bacon City Hall
HR Training Room
2800 King Street SE
Smyrna, GA 30080

City Attorney Scott Cochran
City Administrator Joseph Bennett
City Clerk Heather K. Peacon-Corn

September 26, 2024
11:30 AM

1. Roll Call

Present: 5 – Councilmember/Chair Rickey N. Oglesby, Jr., Committee Member Vanya Foote, Committee Member Robert Harrison, Committee Member Burke Scott, Committee Member Imani Thomas

Also Present: 1 – Mayor Derek Norton (present for the first 15 minutes)

Absent: 2 – Committee Member Charles Rhome, Committee Member Tracy Styf

Staff: 3 – Richard Garland, Carson Haynie, Ashley Youmans

2. Call to Order

The September 26, 2024 Smyrna Public Art Committee held at A. Max Bacon City Hall in the HR Training Room was called to order at 11:36 AM.

3. Chairperson Instruction and Comment

Councilmember Rickey N. Oglesby, Jr welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mayor Derek Norton joined the first few minutes of the meeting to thank the committee for being a part of this new process.

4. Formal Business

A. 2024-218 Crosswalk Project Update

Ashley Youmans, Special Project Manager, said that the committee received one submission from artist Lela Brunet for a crosswalk mural in front of City Hall. She explained that Anna Talarico, the city's art consultant with Designing Local, used the feedback provided from the committee through the Visual Preference Survey and Artist Portfolio Survey to reach out to four artists directly in order to meet the timeline for proposals by this meeting. Ashley said that the other three artists either did not respond or were unavailable for an October installation.

The committee reviewed Lela Brunet's proposal and discussed opinions of the design. The consensus from the committee was interest in moving forward with the proposal and asking if the artist can brighten the colors in the design. Lela's plans include an installation

starting October 14th and completion by October 17th. Members also asked if there was a possibility of creating a coloring page of the design for distribution at the Birthday Celebration, along with a sign displaying the art coming soon near the location. Ashley said staff will ask the artist about updating the design, the sign, and the possibility of a coloring page.

Additionally, the committee discussed continuing with an additional search for the remaining crosswalk locations around City Hall, giving a two-month turnaround time for artist selection and outreach. Ashley explained that staff will give the committee another opportunity to propose artists to consider, then the committee collectively will decide which artists they would like Anna to reach out to for the next crosswalk project. Anna will handle the RFP distribution again for the direct selection process. The committee will review proposals at the November Public Art Committee meeting.

Committee Member Burke Scott made a motion to approve and accept the crosswalk mural proposal by Lela Brunet; seconded by Committee Member Robert Harrison.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 5 – City Council Liaison Oglesby, Committee Member Foote, Committee Member Harrison, Committee Member Scott, Committee Member Thomas
Nay: 0 – None
Absent: 2 – Committee Member Rhome, Committee Member Styf

B. 2024-220 Committee Communications and Scheduling

Councilmember Rickey N. Oglesby, Jr. let the committee know that email communications will be used in between meetings to move along business. Councilmember Oglesby also asked the group what the best day of the week for everyone to meet is. Ms. Youmans mentioned the availability from absent members. The committee decided that the 4th Fridays of each month would be the best option over the same time period: 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The next two meetings will be October 25 and November 22. The December meeting will be scheduled when it gets closer to avoid the holidays.

C. 2024-222 Art Project Next Steps

The committee agreed to continue with crosswalk mural projects since there are more locations available around City Hall.

Ashley Youmans reminded the committee that after crosswalk murals, the next two projects prioritized by the group were painted fire hydrants and utility box murals. Members discussed having some fire hydrants painted by high school students and others painted by professional artists. Ashley said she will work with Anna on the best approach for artwork solicitation.

Councilmember Oglesby proposed including public art during the Juneteenth Festival, which could be like the juried art exhibition example that Anna presented at the first meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes

A. MIN2024-155 Approval of the August 29, 2024 Smyrna Public Art Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Robert Harrison made a motion to approve item MIN2024-155; seconded by Committee Member Burke Scott.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 5 – City Council Liaison Oglesby, Committee Member Foote, Committee Member Harrison, Committee Member Scott, Committee Member Thomas
Nay: 0 – None
Absent: 2 – Committee Member Rhome, Committee Member Styf

6. Other Business / Staff Comment

Robert Harrison discussed other locations for public art opportunities, including between the police and fire departments on Atlanta Road. Burke Scott and Imani Thomas agreed that it would be great to have a list. Ashley Youmans mentioned that Anna Talarico started creating a digital map of current and potential locations, so she will ask if Anna can bring that map to the next meeting.

7. Adjournment

The September 26, 2024 Smyrna Public Art Committee meeting was adjourned at 12:59 PM.

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of persons with disabilities.

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN O.C.G.A. 50-14-3:
The City of Smyrna website – www.smyrnaga.gov
City Hall, 2800 King Street SE, Notice Boards