



City of Richmond Public Art Commission

June Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 27, 2024

3:30 PM

Location: 5th Floor Conference Room, City Hall

This was a hybrid meeting.

SPECIAL GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC ACCESS AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Accessing the Meeting

Directions for accessing the meeting virtually were available at <https://richmondva.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>; access was available via phone (two-way audio only); online by computer, tablet or smartphone (audio and video) or one-way audio online.

Participating in the Meeting/Providing Public Comment

The public was invited to submit comments in writing prior to the meeting via email to monica.kinsey@rva.gov in lieu of speaking through audio or video means during the meeting.

No public comments were received prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Commission Chair Ashley Kistler called the meeting to order at 3:35pm.

Roll Call

Chair Ashley Kistler – Present
Vice Chair Andrea Almond – Absent
Ana Edwards – Absent
Matthew Ebinger for Leo Mantey – Present
Matt Spahr – Present
Maggie Bettin – Present
Charles Piper – Present

Approval of Minutes

Chair Kistler continued the Draft Minutes Document from 4/25/24 to the following meeting.

Secretary's Report

PAC Ordinance:

The ordinance draft is currently under review by the City Attorney's office. The PAC hopes to introduce the final version to City Council this August or September.

Temporary Art:

As of April, the previous Secretary had met with the City Attorney's Office, DPW and Risk Management to attempt to streamline the entire process from drafting the Request for Proposals

to a signed artist agreement. The previous Secretary drafted a production schedule in preparation for an RFP to be posted in May, with artwork installed in time for October's First Friday. As the RFP has not yet been posted, I will adjust the project timeline, aiming to release the RFP in the Fall, with installations unveiled in the Spring.

Chair Kistler advised the Secretary to confirm the status of the temporary artist contract with the City Attorney's Office. The RFP will need to go through several approvals.

Projects:

Southside Community Center Skatepark

The City Attorney's office has drafted a Contract Modification to extend the project to the end of November from August. This shift accounts for delays related to invoice processing and permit issues.

Southside Community Center Gateway

The artist's lawyer's second review of the contract has been forwarded to the City Attorney's Office where it is currently being edited as needed.

Broad Rock Community Garden

A ribbon-cutting ceremony needs to be scheduled.

Alice Fitz Community Garden

A site visit needs to be scheduled with artist to confirm completion.

Fire Station #12

Installation of the ladder sculpture will take place soon. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be scheduled following completion of the building.

Charles S. Gilpin Community Garden

The artist has brought up safety and accessibility concerns regarding the intersection at the southern tip of the Community Garden. As a first step in resolving this issue, the Commission Chair and I will meet with the artist on-site next week.

Slave Trailhead

Final artist materials are being reviewed by the artist selection panel. A finalist will be selected and confirmed by the end of July.

Bon Secours Gifts of Art

The gift was approved by the PAC in the April meeting and will be turned into an ordinance to be introduced to City Council.

April Banks Gift of Art

The gift was approved by the PAC in the April meeting and will be turned into an ordinance to be introduced to City Council. Before this can be introduced to City Council, relocation costs need to be negotiated as that will need to be a part of the ordinance.

Chair Kistler advised the Secretary that the next step is to confirm a site for this sculpture. Abner Clay Park had been suggested. Commission Member Piper noted that there could be concerns regarding the safety of this sculpture, depending on where it is sited. Chair Kistler recommended that the Secretary extend an invitation to Commission Member Piper when scheduling a site visit at Abner Clay Park with Shakia Gullette Warren of the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia.

Regular Agenda

Broad Rock Sports Complex (PRCF Fitness Court Mural)

The Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities department has been working with the National Fitness Campaign on an outdoor fitness court at the Broad Rock Sports Complex. The National Fitness Campaign's design team has designed three mural wraps for review. Daniel Hazlett of the PRCF will present the designs to the PAC today; the PAC will then take a vote.

Commission Member substitute Ebinger expressed interest in the first design, a nature-themed option that included Virginia-specific elements such as the dogwood tree and Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly. All PAC members were in agreement.

Commission Member Bettin motioned and Ebinger seconded to approve the first design.

Motion passed by the following vote:

Chair Kistler – Aye

Matthew Ebinger for Leo Mantey – Aye

Matt Spahr – Aye

Maggie Bettin – Aye

Charles Piper – Aye

Other Business

DPU Water Tower Art Program (Tower Banner & Future Projects)

The Department of Public Utilities would like to pursue public art opportunities through the PAC for a few upcoming projects, including a water tower painting program city-wide. David Kibbie of the DPU will present on these projects today.

Chair Kistler confirmed that the PAC does not need to be involved with the review and approval of the DPU 100th Anniversary banner, but should be involved with artist opportunities for painting murals on water towers.

Chair Kistler noted that the PAC can provide assistance to PRCF and DPU with RFPs, promotion, and outreach for artist opportunities. Secretary Kinsey noted that such opportunities should be shared with VCU professors to distribute to their cohorts.

Secretary Kinsey expressed an interest in pursuing a social media presence for the PAC to better connect the community with artist opportunities and PAC news. Chair Kistler advised the Secretary to connect with Kim Chen on this and noted that there is a pre-existing Facebook account that has been used in the past.

Adjournment

Commission Chair Kistler called the meeting adjourned at 4:45.