



City of Richmond

City Hall
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Meeting Minutes Public Art Commission

Thursday, June 25, 2020

4:30 PM

5th Floor Conference Room of City Hall

THIS WAS A VIRTUAL MEETING

City Hall is closed to the public and this meeting was held through electronic communication means pursuant to and in compliance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020. This meeting will be open to participation through electronic communication means by the public and closed to in-person participation by the public.

Most, if not all, Public Art Commission members and other staff will participate in this meeting by teleconference/videoconference via Microsoft Teams. Those who may be assembling for this meeting will do so in the 5th Floor Conference Room of City Hall at 900 East Broad Street in Richmond, Virginia 23219.

SPECIAL GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC ACCESS AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Accessing the Meeting

To access and/or participate in the Public Art Commission meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2020, at 4:30 PM, you have several options:

1. Access the meeting by phone

You may listen to the meeting (audio only) from your phone by dialing *67-804-316-9457 and when prompted, enter conference ID 185 380 28#

2. Access the meeting online by computer, tablet or smartphone (audio and video)

To access the meeting via Microsoft Teams use the following link:

https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2f_%23%2f%2fmeetupjoin%2f19%3ameeting_OTBjM2M2MjUtODA4NC00NWY5LWE4ZTEtOTUzZTE2Zjc1MTBI%40thread.v2%2f0%3fcontext%3d%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%25223f56d663-141b-4418-b66c-326033ab9ce1%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%25222d67e2ef0599-473f-a900-ed71aab5fb34%2522%257d%26anon%3dtrue&type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=2c2a0b14-8bca-4af8-974bbffa3f39bd57&directDI=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true

3. Access the meeting online by computer, tablet or smartphone (audio only)

Audio of the meeting will be streamed via Legistar live online at the following web address:

<https://richmondva.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

To listen to the meeting's live stream at the web address provided, find and click the link that reads "In Progress" in the farthest right hand column entitled, "Video."

NOTE: This is a "listen only" option. Individuals accessing the meeting online via Legistar will not be able to participate in the meeting's public hearing.

Participating in the Meeting/Providing Public Comment

1. Provide public comment regarding items on the agenda prior to the meeting

Citizens are encouraged to provide their comments in writing to susan.glasser@richmondgov.com in lieu of speaking through audio or video means during the meeting. All written comments received via email prior to 10:00 AM on Thursday, June 25, 2020, will be provided to all members of the Public Art Commission prior to the beginning of the meeting and will be included in the record of the

meeting.

When submitting your comments by email, be sure to include in your email

- (i) your full legal name;
- (ii) any organizations you represent, and;
- (iii) any economic or professional relationships that would be affected by the adoption of the legislation on which you are commenting.

The person responsible for receiving written comments is Susan Glasser, Secretary to the Public Art Commission.

2. Provide public comment regarding items on the agenda during to the meeting

If you are accessing the meeting by phone or via Microsoft Teams and you would like to speak during the meeting's public hearing, you will be asked to do so during the meeting at the appropriate time, and the applicable time limits will be enforced.

Call to Order

Roll Call

- Present --** 6 - * Commissioner Charles Piper, * Commissioner Matthew Spahr, * Commissioner Andrea Almond, * Commissioner Ana Edwards, * Commissioner Ashley Kistler and * Commissioner Anne Fletcher
- Absent --** 1 - * Commissioner Amber Esseiva

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Piper, seconded by Commissioner Spahr, that this be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Aye --** 6 - Commissioner Charles Piper, Commissioner Matthew Spahr, Commissioner Andrea Almond, Commissioner Ana Edwards, Commissioner Ashley Kistler and Commissioner Anne Fletcher

Secretary's Report

Consideration of Continuances and Deletions from Agenda

REGULAR AGENDA

Richmond 300 overview

This presentation was tabled until the July 23, 2020 PAC meeting due to time constraints.

New road mural on Grace Street (tentative)

An application for this project was not submitted for consideration.

Work Plan Status/Planning Commission

The plan was presented to the Planning Commission on June 1, 2020. A final vote was tabled until the Planning Commission's July 6 meeting. Concerns included the equitable

distribution of locations of existing public art projects and the expenditure of City funds given the ongoing financial concerns of the City as a result of Covid-19. Gary agreed to reach out to Planning Commissioner Mel Law who voiced concern about the budget implications of the plan.

Proposed change to Work Plan

Ashley stressed the need for an “iconic sculpture” to mark this moment in RVA’s history and also ensure that the PAC is positioned to take a lead role in “re-envisioning Monument Avenue.” She proposed combining two projects on the existing Work Plan— “Artist’s Choice” and “Jefferson Davis Replacement Project” to allocate \$1M for a new commission on Monument Ave decoupled from the Jefferson Davis monument.

Matt and Charles who were to serve as leads on the “Artist’s Choice” project concurred with the plan.

Several Commissioners urged a role for the community in developing a plan for Monument Avenue moving forward.

Anne encourage consideration of a grant-funded series of temporary art installations to encourage “fruitful and productive conversations” with the larger community and referenced Fairfax’s “Imagine Art Here” initiative.

Ashley cautioned the PAC about time implications of developing a temporary art project. Matt mentioned that Emily Smith at 1708 had expressed an interest in a Monument Avenue focused project and Susan mentioned that CultureWorks had also reached out about a multi-disciplinary set of programs on the same theme. Matt will contact 1708 to see if they would be interested in taking the lead on a temporary art initiative to limit the impact on the PAC workload.

A motion was made to approve amending the Work Plan by combining the “Artist Choice” project with the “Jefferson Davis Replacement Project” to create a new project totaling \$1M and described as a new, iconic public commission to be installed somewhere along Monument Avenue.

Aye -- 7 - Gary Flowers, Commissioner Charles Piper, Commissioner Matthew Spahr, Commissioner Andrea Almond, Commissioner Ana Edwards, Commissioner Ashley Kistler and Commissioner Anne Fletcher

Project Status Reports

This discussion was tabled until the July 23, 2020, PAC meeting due to time constraints.

PAC public statement

A substantial discussion considered the importance of the PAC making a public statement relative the recent events on Monument Avenue and what role the PAC should undertake moving forward.

Matthew Ebinger described the required process for drafting and distributing such a statement that needs to be managed by the City’s Press Office.

Assorted comments of note included:

Matt and Charles agreed on the need for such a statement.

Gary called such a statement “our coming out party and a declaratory statement of what our values are.”

Andrea suggested that if the Planning Commission approved the Work Plan, the

statement might promote the plan as a whole.

Anne felt such a statement could “bring us together” and demonstrate the “healing power of public art.”

Anne and Ashley volunteered to draft a statement or bullet points for such a statement that could be forwarded onto the Press Office.

OTHER BUSINESS

Adjournment

Commission Chair Kistler gaveled out the meeting at 5:51 PM