



City of Richmond

City Hall
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Meeting Minutes Public Art Commission

Thursday, September 3, 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 will be 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, September 3, 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 878 887 455#

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?type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=ca545c39-418b-425a-b153-8c58973c4f26&directDI=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&url=%2F_%23%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting_ZjQ4ODRhMTQtNjg3Yi00ZDY0LTlkZWItYjIyTYzMWJhZGJj@thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%25223f56d663-141b-4418-b66c-326033ab9ce1%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%25222d67e2ef-0599-473f-a900-ed71aab5fb34%2522%257d%26anon%3Dtrue&suppressPrompt=true&promptSuccess=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, September 3, 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

Chair Ashley Kistler called the meeting to order at 4:38

Roll Call

- Present --** 8 - * Commissioner Gary Flowers, * Commissioner Charles Piper, * Commissioner Matthew Spahr, * Commissioner Andrea Almond, * Commissioner Amber Esseiva, * Commissioner Ana Edwards, * Commissioner Ashley Kistler and * Commissioner Anne Fletcher
- Absent --** 1 - * Commissioner Vivek G. Murthy

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Anne to approve the July 23, 2020 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Matt and approved by Ashley, Anne, Andrea, Ana, Amber, Charles, and Matt.

A motion was made by Anne to approve the special August 3, 2020 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Charles and approved by Ashley, Anne, Andrea, Charles, and Matt.

Secretary's Report

New Staffing: The new Deputy Director of PDR, Kevin Vonck, was introduced to the Commission

RVASAF: The Festival is back on and tentatively scheduled for April. The group has also decided to continue planning to install the murals along the Flood Wall as originally planned. Existing agreements regarding not painting murals directly adjacent to the Low Line Green will still be in effect.

Bloomberg Grant Survey:

So far we have 312 responses. A few things that I think are worth sharing about the survey:

- When asked if people had a better understanding of the project after taking the survey, 80% said yes, 18% said sort of, and 2% said no
- When asked if they support the concept based on what they know, over 80% said yes, about 8% said no, and about 12% said they need more info
- About one-third of the people who took the survey live in Jackson Ward

Press Coverage

- Richmond Times Dispatch
- NBC 12
- Richmond Magazine
- Richmond Biz Sense
- Good Morning RVA!

BLM Road Mural: We have gotten negative feedback from a few members of the community about the proposed project. The City has also been threatened with a law suit should the project proceed. The City Attorney's Office is currently researching the situation further and no final decisions have been reached to date. We have been approached with inquiries about two additional road mural proposals but have not yet received formal proposals for either.

Shockoe Alliance: The Alliance met on August 12 to begin prioritizing initiatives following a survey that was sent out to Alliance member. A copy of the survey results can be found here:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ca22f4b65a707e82254141c/t/5f3698ac00d5aa0f2860a0fb/1597413549869/Survey+Results+SA+Mtg+8_12_2020.pdf

Consideration of Continuances and Deletions from Agenda

CONSENT AGENDA

REGULAR AGENDA

Hillside Court Playground Project Presentation

Divya Nautiyal with HKS Architects provided a PowerPoint presentation about plans for a new playground at Hillside Court for which the firm is currently collecting data and design

options.

Comments from Commissioners included the following:

Gary observed that the statistic that 90% of households in the neighborhood are led by women should not be the focus of plans; instead, efforts should be on showing that unions of men and women raising children needs to be shown. Ana seconded this position.

Amber, who at be serving as the PAC project lead on the Hillside Court project, asked about other community engagement efforts similar to the one Divya mentioned on Sept 12 would be happening. Amber also asked for a copy of the PowerPoint and any other data that HKS Architects has collected so she can have a fuller understanding of the direction the project is heading into.

Andrea mentioned that Bellemeade Community Center, down the street from Hillside Court is active in the neighborhood and has collected lots of input from children in Hillside Court that the architects might find useful. She also noted that Groundworks is another useful resource in the area.

Charles applauded the preliminary work of HKS and said their strong focus on community input was "setting the table for the neighborhood" to be involved.

New Commissioner Nomination

Ashley presented Maggie Small as a nomination for the last vacancy on the Commission. Maggie Small, a native of Richmond, Virginia, began dancing at The School of Richmond Ballet and attended New York University before joining the Company where she danced for 16 years while earning a B.A. in Performing Arts from St. Mary's College of California. Performing and originating many roles in classical and contemporary works with Richmond Ballet and other companies, she has performed internationally in the United Kingdom and China as well as domestically in notable performance spaces such as The Joyce Theater, Jacob's Pillow and alongside Carmen Devallade at Jazz at Lincoln Center. Honors include a Dance Magazine cover story feature as Richmond Ballet's "Homegrown Ballerina", a "Hometown Hero" Award from the Links, Inc. and the inaugural "Dancer of the Year" RVA Dance Award. Maggie retired from Richmond Ballet in 2019 where she remains as the Grant Specialist in addition to teaching ballet throughout Virginia.

Charles observed that she was a "terrific candidate" and "very talented."

A motion was made by Charles to approve the nomination of Maggie Smith as a new PAC Commissioner, seconded by Gary and approved by Ashley, Anne, Andrea, Ana, Amber, Gary, Charles, and Matt.

Temporary Public Art Program

Topic tabled until the September 24, 2020 meeting due to time constraints

Equity Statement

A draft of the Equity Statement was provided to the Commissioners for review and suggestions of any recommended changes. Charles commented that it was "well done" and that he appreciated that it was "appropriately brief."

Gary requested more time to review the statement.

A vote on the statement was reschedule for the September 24 meeting.

Project Updates

Southside Community Center Skate Park

Andrea announced that she is putting her Artist Selection Panel together but was struggling with identifying the three “arts professionals” needed. Chris Mahonski, Travis Pulley, and Rob Lee were suggested by other Commission members.

Community Gardens

In Vik’s absence, Susan mentioned that plans for launching a community survey are nearing completion. She also asked for suggestions for the Artist Selection Panel for this project. Duron Chavis and Randee Humphrey

OTHER BUSINESS

Adjournment

Chair Ashley Kistler gaveled the meeting closed at 5:58