



The Philadelphia Art
Commission

Established 1911

Minutes

The Philadelphia Art Commission

December 2, 2020 - 9:30 a.m.

Remote – Zoom Meeting – Hosted by DPZ

Members Present: Alan Greenberger, José Almiñana, Carmen Febo San Miguel,
Raed Nasser, Robert Roesch, Mario Zacharjasz, Steve Hartner, Natalie Nixon

Alan Greenberger

Chair

José Almiñana

Carmen Febo San Miguel

Bridget Collins-Greenwald

Raed Nasser

Natalie Nixon

Robert Roesch

Mario Zacharjasz

Steve Hartner

C. Beige Berryman

Staff

Meeting of the Philadelphia Art Commission

Beige Berryman – staff member of the Art Commission – introduced the Zoom platform and remote Art Commission process, noting that the meeting is being recorded and those participating in the meeting are giving their consent to be recorded. A link to the recording, will be posted on the Art Commission website and the meeting agenda and materials can also be found on the website at: (<https://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/>).

*Ms. Berryman polled the commission via roll call, then stated a few instructions for the public. Members of the public may comment on agenda items during the meeting. When the agenda items that you are interested in is being discussed, you can use the “raise hand” feature and staff will unmute you during the public comment period. If you’re joining by phone, you can also use the hand raise feature by dialing *9 during the public comment period and if you have any submitted comments through email, staff will read those emails out loud at the appropriate time. Thank you.*

Minutes

- November 4, 2020 meeting minutes

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Greenberger asked if there was a motion to approve the November Minutes at the minute mark in video at (00:02:22).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Raed and seconded by Commissioner Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the November minutes (8-0).

One Parkway Building

1515 Arch St.

13th Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-683-4674

artcommission@phila.gov

Report of the Sign Committee – November 18, 2020

Second Reviews:

1. **99-20**
Matt & Marie's, Zushi, Corner Coffee
100 N 18th Street, Two Logan Square
2. **107-20**
T-Mobile
1000 S Broad Street
3. **144-20**
Sunnyside
1221 Chestnut Street
4. **160-20**
Atmos
1509 Walnut Street
5. **162-20**
Rowhome Coffee
2536 Pine Street

First Reviews:

1. **1-20**
Nelson Playground
301 W Cumberland St
2. **180-20**
Vibrant Coffee
222 Rittenhouse Square
3. **181-20**
Rite Aid

1000 Market Street
4. **186-20**
Rite Aid
2000 Hamilton Street
5. **190-20**
Rite Aid 7
30-732 Market Street

6. **182-20**
Morea
106 S 11th Street
7. **183-20**
Ancient Spirits and Grill
1726 Chestnut St
8. **184-20**
Sonder
123 S Broad St
9. **187-20**
Sonder
313 Race St
10. **185-20**
Verizon
1430 Walnut St
11. **188-20**
Wework
34-40 S 11th Street
12. **189-20**
Fastenal
458 N 2nd Street
13. **191-20**
Pat's Steaks
901 Wharton Street
14. **192-20**
Sephora
907 Market Street

Chairperson Greenberger stated that the Commission had reviewed the Sign Committee recommendations and thanked Ms. Berryman for splitting them into first and second reviews. Then, Chairperson Greenberger asked the Commission if there were any questions.

Seeing no questions or comments from the commission, Chairperson Greenberger asked if there was a motion to approve the recommendations of the sign committee at (00:02:52).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Raed and seconded by Commissioner Febo San Miguel. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the recommendations (8-0).

Administrative Agenda

1. Proposed 2021 Calendar Schedule

Ms. Berryman presented the proposed 2021 calendar schedule, which is to shift the Art Commission meetings from the first Wednesday of the month to the second Wednesday of the month. In correspondence, shifting the Sign Committee meetings from the third Wednesday of the month to the fourth Wednesday of the month. (00:03:16)

The first **Art Commission** meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

The first **Sign Committee** meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

Chairperson Greenberger asked if there was a motion to approve at (00:04:41).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Zacharjasz and seconded by Commissioner Raed, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the calendar (8-0). Upon Chairperson Greenberger recommendation, Ms. Berryman will send a meeting invite to the Commission of the meeting dates for 2021.

Presentations for Second Review

1. 41-20

Chamounix Equestrian Center

98 Chamounix Drive

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Renovation and addition to existing facility

Submitted by: Archer and Buchanan

This presentation was presented at (00:11:04) by Kareem Rosser, Executive Director of Work to Ride and Alex Rice, AIA. Mr. Rosser opened with background information, an overview of the program and mission statement followed by Mr. Rice, who presented.

Mr. Rosser explained that they have been planning to expand their program, that has been serving Philadelphia youth for over 26-years and have always had ambitious plans to get it more involved in community and serve more kids. Over the last four years they've been building out a capital campaign that will help to refurbish their current facility that they lease from the City, build an additional facility, and also build an endowment that will support the new growth of the program.

Chairperson Greenberger inquired about the existing exterior stable materials (30:51). Mr. Rice stated that it was split-faced CMU block and built in 1975. With regards to the proposed stonework, Chairperson Greenberger asked if it was the final material selection. Mr. Rice clarified that the material may end up being CMU covered with board and batten siding but the site walls will be stone. Mr. Greenberger stressed the importance of keeping the material palette consistent between the proposed and existing sections of the facility. He also was appreciative of the more subdued color palette of the materials compared to the first review.

Further discussion about the location of the stone, landscape design and tree removal continued at the minute mark in video (00:33:24). Commissioner Almiñana expressed concerns about the project increasing the footprint of the existing facility and in doing so, many trees will be removed. He stated that he did not have enough information about the tree removal plan to render an opinion on this project. Commissioner Raed agreed and mentioned that an approval letter from Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR) is needed. There are two program options offered through PPR, in kind tree replacement or tree preservation, and clarity is needed from the agency to the applicant on the plan for tree removal.

While there were no reservations about the architecture from the Commission, more information was requested about the tree removal plan and site grading plan. The Commission requested that approvals from both PPR and PWD be submitted to the Art Commission as conditions of their approval.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chairperson Greenberger asked if there was a motion to approve (00:45:45).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Zacharjasz and seconded by Commissioner Nixon, Commissioner Zacharjasz clarified that the motion was being made under the condition that the Commission would receive more information. Chairperson Greenberger replied yes, the applicant must file PPR and PWD approvals with the Art Commission staff as a condition.

Ms. Berryman polled the Commission. Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Hartner, Commissioner Nixon, Commissioner Roesch, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Greenberger. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval. (6-0).

Commissioner Almiñana and Commissioner Raed abstained from this item.

**2. 166-20
Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant
3800 Richmond Street**

Review Type: Alteration of City property

Project Details: Site improvements, facility improvements, new construction Submitted by: Trans-Pacific Engineering Corporation

Presentation began at the minute mark (00:48:22) by Kelly Hollenbeck. Ms. Hollenbeck presented an overview and project purpose, which is to comply with the consent decree issued by the City of Philadelphia to help reduce flowrates of sewage overflows through the construction of the new industrial facility. The building houses large amounts of equipment and it isn't occupied by any personnel. Ornamental fencing (black wrought iron) and brick piers are part of the proposal. The brick color used for the piers was changed to match the building material since the last presentation.

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:59:35). Commissioner Roesch inquired about the building materials, if true bricks and not veneer were being used. This was confirmed.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chairperson Greenberger asked if there was a motion to approve (01:01:46).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Raed and seconded by Commissioner Roesch, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission. Commissioner Almiñana Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Hartner, Commissioner Raed, Commissioner Nixon, Commissioner Roesch, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairperson Greenberger. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (8-0).

Presentations for Concept Review

1. 195-20

Heitzman Recreation Center 2136 Castor Avenue

Review Type: Alteration of City property

Project Details: Building renovation and site improvements

Submitted by: Rodriguez Consulting, LLC

Presentation began at the minute mark (01:03:11). The purpose of the proposed work is to improve the site under the Rebuild initiative. The project scope includes improvements to the site and upgrades to the existing building, excluding the field and the pool. The proposed construction budget and the funding sources is roughly \$2.2 million dollars through the Rebuild program, with approximately \$50,000 that that will be funded through U.S. Soccer Foundation, Safe Place to Play Grant, and EPYSA and the Philadelphia Union Foundation.

Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (01:21:00).

Given that this is a Rebuild project, Commissioner Febo San Miguel wanted to know if would trigger the 1% for Art requirement. Yes, it would. However, at the moment, they don't have any specific plans for the public art.

Considering the large amount of mechanical work, which is clearly needed, Commissioner Greenberger expressed that it's a pretty thin budget. In addition, there's a lot of information that the Commission is going to need for the second review about materials and drawings the portray a sense of the overall vision of the project. The current presentation was very segmented. Additionally, Chairperson Greenberger raised concerns about the time disconnect of the project, it is worrisome that this is a concept review but construction drawings are being shown.

Further discussion continued at the minute mark (01:24:00), with Ms. Bush, Chairperson Greenberger, Mr. Richard and Commissioner Zacharjasz, who agreed with Chairperson Greenberger's comments. Commissioner Roesch raised concerns about having difficulty understanding the color scheme and the location of the various elements within the site and added that drawings that described the overall plan would also help the community. Commissioner Nixon asked if the Commission could receive more information about the lighting design in the next presentation. Commissioner Almiñana agreed with the Commission about the importance of following review procedures and having drawings at the conceptual level. He then inquired about the plant selection and suggested Inkberry rather than Boxwood. Commissioner Raed asked if the soccer program was going to be affordable.

Commissioner Greenberger mentioned that the mechanical equipment screening and placement on the roof top needed to be addressed in the next presentation.

Chairperson Greenberger expressed that the scope and general design make sense but the Commission needs to see much more information.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chairperson Greenberger asked if there was a motion to approve at concept level (01:42:27).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Raed, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission. Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Hartner, Commissioner Raed, Commissioner Nixon, Commissioner Roesch, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairperson Greenberger. The Commission voted unanimously for concept approval (7-0).

Chairperson Greenberger thanked the Commissioners and everyone for their commitment made on the routine and extraordinary services throughout 2020 and then, wished everyone a safe and healthy holiday.

The December 2, 2020 Art Commission was adjourned at the minute mark (01:44:56).

Ended at 11:14 a.m.

The next Art Commission will be held Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.