

The Philadelphia Art  
Commission  
Established 1911

## Minutes

### The Philadelphia Art Commission

July 13, 2022 - 9:30 a.m.

Remote – Zoom Meeting – Hosted by DPZ

Robert Roesch  
Chair

Members Present: José Almiñana, Carmen Febo San Miguel, Raed Nasser, Sarah McEneaney, Matthew Kenyatta, Pepón Osorio, Mario Zacharjusz, and Robert Roesch

José Almiñana  
Deborah Cahill  
Carmen Febo San Miguel  
Matthew Kenyatta  
Sarah McEneaney  
Raed Nasser  
Pepón Osorio  
Mario Zacharjusz

### 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/>).*

C. Beige Berryman  
Staff

*Ms. Berryman polled the commission via roll call announcing a quorum, then stated a few instructions for the public. Members of the public may comment on agenda items during the meeting. When the agenda item 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.*

*Chair Roesch called the meeting to order at the minute mark in video (00:01:40).*

### Minutes

- June 8, 2022 meeting minutes

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve.

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Osorio.*



**Report of the Sign Committee – June 22, 2022**

Previously Reviewed on August 18, 2021:

1. **129-21**  
**Kratom Dispensary**  
1700 Walnut Street

Second Reviews:

1. **247-21**  
**Jefferson Health**  
1101 Chestnut Street

First Reviews:

1. **120-22**  
**One Cathedral Square**  
1701 Race Street
2. **126-22**  
**Citizens Bank**  
726 Market Street
3. **127-22**  
**Giant Heirloom Market**  
801 Market Street
4. **123-22**  
**Arch Street Meeting House**  
312-38 Arch Street
5. **118-22**  
**Pressed**  
113 S 13th Street
6. **119-22**  
**Parachute Home**  
1625 Walnut Street
7. **121-22**  
**Glossier**  
1716 Walnut Street
8. **125-22**  
**Ovation**  
701 S Broad Street
9. **122-22**  
**Sugared and Bronzed**  
1733 Chestnut St

One Parkway Building  
1515 Arch St.  
13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-683-4674 Telephone

[www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/](http://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/)

**10. 124-22**

**Bubble Tea Room**

319 Market Street

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Sign Committee from June 22, 2022 (00:04:16).

*Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Sign Committee Recommendation (6-0).*

**Administrative Agenda**

**1. 130-22**

**Disston Recreation Center**

**4423 Longshore Avenue**

Review Type: Minor construction project located on City property

Project Details: Routine maintenance and mechanical systems upgrades

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Ms. Berryman presented four administrative items starting with the Disston Recreation Center, which occupies an entire block in the Tacony neighborhood (00:05:28). It is a contributing structure to the Tacony Disston Community Development Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places but not on the local Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. The project does not require review by the Philadelphia Historic Commission. The project primarily consists of a roof replacement and mechanical upgrades, the City's Percent for Art program is not applicable. Exterior work includes masonry restoration for the building and site retaining wall, door and window upgrades to better mimic original styles and increase ADA access, and existing lights will be replaced in their same location with LED lighting that incorporates night-sky cut-offs and exposed exterior conduits will be removed and rerouted to the interior.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve administrative item (00:07:11).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Almiñana, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval for improvements to the Disston Recreation Center (7-0).*

**2. 31-22**

**Direct Bus A Kiosks**

**9 locations along Roosevelt Boulevard**

Review Type: Encroachment in the public right-of-way

Project Details: Replacement of pylons with kiosks for technology upgrade

Applicant: Office of Transportation, Infrastructure & Sustainability

One Parkway Building  
1515 Arch St.  
13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-683-4674 Telephone

[www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/](http://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/)

This proposal is for nine locations along Roosevelt Boulevard and will replace existing pylons with kiosks providing real time information to SEPTA riders waiting for the bus. The existing pylons are not wide enough for a screen. The same kiosk was previously approved by the Art Commission staff in October of 2021 at the pilot location at Cottman Avenue and the Boulevard.

Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked if the kiosk design was similar to what was previously approved. Ms. Berryman and Chairperson Roesch answered yes.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve administrative item (00:09:34).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairperson Roesch.*

*The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Direct Bus A kiosk locations (8-0).*

### **3. 149-21**

#### **Micro Bus Shelter**

#### **Southeast corner of Washington Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street**

Review Type: Encroachment in the public right-of-way

Project Details: Alternative location for S. 20th Street and Wharton Street installation

Applicant: Office of Transportation, Infrastructure & Sustainability

In September of 2021, the Art Commission approved the furniture and a pilot installation concept for these micro bus shelters. In May of 2022, six locations were approved. Now today, an alternative site to one of those six locations, the South 20th Street and Wharton Street, needs to be relocated to the Southeast corner of Washington Avenue and South 20th Street. Staff recommends approval, with the condition that the rendering show the micro shelter location in the furnishing zone.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the administrative item (00:11:34).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner McEaney, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Micro Bus Shelter location (8-0).*

### **4. 132-22**

#### **Bus Shelter Upgrades**

#### **Various locations**

Review Type: Encroachment in the public right-of-way

Project Details: Seven new bus shelter installations

Applicant: Office of Transportation, Infrastructure & Sustainability

One Parkway Building  
1515 Arch St.  
13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-683-4674 Telephone

[www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/](http://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/)

This proposal is for seven new bus shelters at various locations around the city. All locations are proposing new shelters where currently, no shelter exists. Staff has reviewed each location in terms of Complete Street standards. While the recommended Complete Street walking zone dimensions cannot be met at all the locations, staff recommends approval as the shelters offer improved conditions.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the administrative item (00:12:46).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Almiñana and seconded by Commissioner McEneaney, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously to approve improvements to the Bus Shelter upgrades (8-0).*

## **Presentations for Final Review**

### **1. 70-22**

#### **Mary McLeod Bethune Schoolyard Improvements 3301 Old York Road**

Review Type: Construction project paid with City funds

Project Details: Schoolyard renovation

Applicant: Philadelphia School District

Presenter: Trust for Public Land

Evan McNaught and Kari Sannino were the presenters for the final review of Mary McLeod Bethune Schoolyard Improvements. Mr. McNaught began the presentation at the minute mark (00:14:40).

Mr. McNaught gave an overview and reintroduced the site. The project makes green improvements to an asphalt school yard and design updates since the April presentation include playground equipment details, modifications to the exercise track, details about the picnic area and rain garden, and material and site furnishing details.

*Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (00:23:04).*

Chairperson Roesch asked about the material of the fence and of the picnic area furniture Mr. McNaught said that two types of fencing will be used, chain link and vertical bar fencing at the street. The furnishings in the picnic area are plastic and filled with sand so they don't have any footings, which is important for the stormwater design. He also inquired about the lifespan of artificial turf, which ranges between 8-10 years.

Commissioner McEneaney wanted to know if the community used the schoolyard at night and if which it isn't. However, nearby building and street lighting provide some light.

One Parkway Building  
1515 Arch St.  
13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-683-4674 Telephone

[www.phila.gov/departments/  
philadelphia-art-commission/](http://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/)

Commissioner Kenyatta expressed his appreciation for telling the story of Mary McLeod Bethune's accomplishments. He also appreciated the planting of additional trees to reduce heat concerns in the summer.

Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked about the public art requirement, the project team stated it was not required as the project budget is under a million dollars but they will stay in touch with the Art Commission staff to make sure that they're following those regulations.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (00:39:39).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEaney and seconded by Commissioner Nasser, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (8-0).*

**2. 104-21**  
**Barrett Playground**  
**641 Lindley Avenue**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property  
Project Details: Site and building improvements  
Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation  
Presenter: Stuart & Associates and SALT Design Studio

Presenters include Katrina Rogus, Todd Woodward, Aaron Henderson, Robert Totaro, and Debbie Stuart (00:41:25). Mr. Totaro, project manager for Nicetown Community Development Corporation, began the presentation.

This is a Rebuild project focusing on areas that the Art Commission previously identified for follow up. He confirmed the budget of \$12 million and thus the requirement for public art is applicable. The team recently met with Marguerite Anglin and Stephanie Fuentes to discuss potential types of art and interior installations are being considered.

Katrina Rogus then began describing site conditions and landscape design elements, the project is a complete revitalization of the existing facility. Others than addressed lighting, pavements details, and stormwater management.

*Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (00:57:15).*

Chairperson Roesch read Commissioner Almiñana's written remark (he needed to excuse himself temporarily from the meeting) that the project is good but ambitious, any changes in scope should return to the Art Commission. It was clarified that Parks and Recreation will maintain the lawn and a "no mow" seed mix will be used around the perimeter to reduce maintenance.

Commissioner McEneaney inquired about site entrance, as it seemed to serve cars and provide ADA and pedestrian access which might be in conflict. A dedicated sidewalk for pedestrians was highlighted.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (01:02:33).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Zacharjasz and seconded by Commissioner Nasser, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (7-0). Commissioner Almiñana wasn't present for the vote.*

### 3. 4-22

#### **Kingsessing Library Renovations 4901 Kingsessing Avenue**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property  
Project Details: Building renovations and site improvements  
Applicant: Philadelphia Free Library  
Presenter: Kelly Maiello Architects

Presented by Sara Pevaroff Schuh, Angela Fleegle, Amanda Colon-Smith, Angie Dixon, and Dori Bova, (01:04:22). Dori Bova began the presentation with an overview of the project. The concept review was conducted in January and included the Recreation Center and the Library. Today's final review only includes the library, located on 51<sup>st</sup> Street on a 9.2-acre site. There were three community engagement meetings conducted between the summer of 2021 and spring of 2022.

Sara Pevaroff Schuh then presented the landscape work (01:06:28) including the accessible walkway to the story circle and a "no mow" lawn. The play terrains have been relocated to the Recreation Center. Dori Bova reviewed the interior renovations and clarified that the Philadelphia Historic Commission approval had been received.

*Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (01:17:50)*

Chairperson Roesch clarified that the Percent for Art requirement will need to come back for a review in the future. Commissioner Zacharjasz questioned how the lower-level ADA access functioned.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (01:22:04).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Nasser (01:22:04), Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner*



*Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (7-0).*

**4. 100-22**

**Scanlon Recreation Center**

**1099 E Venango Street**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Outdoor site improvements

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Presenter: Heckendorn Shiles Architects

Presenters for the application included Priyanka Malik, Jonathan Ringenbach, and Jared Bookhamer (01:24:01).

Mr. Bookhamer presented the design of the outdoor renovations and gave an overview of the project. This project proposes to renovate a small outdoor area immediately adjacent to the existing building and to build a new outdoor rink, future phases will need to return to the Commission.

Details of the changes made from the last review were presented. The fence and gate details around the rink were described. The circulation paths for utility vehicles was clarified.

*Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (01:17:50)*

Commissioners thanked the applicants for incorporating their prior feedback.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (01:31:48).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Osorio, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (7-0).*

**5. 96-22**

**Lewis C. Cassidy Elementary School**

**6523 Lansdowne Avenue**

Review Type: Construction project paid with City funds

Project Details: New school building

Applicant: Philadelphia School District

Presenter: Ewing Cole

Andrew Donaldson-Evans presented the project and addressed some of the responses requested by the Commission at their previous review (01:33:24). He mentioned that the existing school is now demolished. There were studies conducted about the building and its potential to be rehabilitated but the building had numerous issues with mold and lead as well as structural deficiencies and could not be preserved.



The context is a residential neighborhood, generally built to two stories. The former school building was almost 30-feet taller than many of these residences. The proposed building fits into the context more seamlessly. The student playground, planting plan, and “canyon” spaces were then described. Bird-safe glazing and the measures for meeting LEED Gold were also detailed.

*Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (01:46:54)*

Chairperson Roesch wanted to know how the stormwater retention basin underneath the parking lot worked and about any Percent for Art obligations.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval.

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Zacharjas, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (6-0). Commissioner Nassar was not present for the vote.*

## 6. 73-22

### **Butler Triangle and Erie Triangle**

#### **Expanded intersection of Broad Street, Germantown Avenue, Erie Avenue**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Construction in the public right-of-way

Applicant: Office of Transportation, Infrastructure and Sustainability (OTIS)

Presenter: Ground Reconsidered

Angela Perry and Chantal Frances from SEPTA and Andrew Simpson, Julie Bush from the City presented this project (01:52:16).

Mr. Simpson presented a brief overview of the project and addressed transportation improvements, including bike and bus lanes, bus shelter removal, and Vision Zero improvements to create a welcoming and safe public environment for everyone. Additionally, the location of bollards, ramps, and planters, was described. Lastly, he estimated that the Percent for Art component will begin in the fall of 2022.

Julie Bush covered the landscape improvements of the project. Changes since the last presentation were minimal but included shifting the planters to create more room by the elevator and planting a large canopy tree near Broad Street.

*Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (02:08:58)*

Commissioner Almiñana returned and asked if skateboard deterrents were part of the concrete seat wall design. He asked about irrigation and maintenance of the plantings. Commissioners

Osorio asked about maintenance plans for the string lights. Chairperson Roesch suggested adding more trash receptacles near the seating area.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (02:10:14).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Osorio and seconded by Commissioner Almiñana, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch.*

*The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (8-0).*

## **7. 97-22**

### **SEPTA Erie Station Accessibility Improvements BSL Erie Avenue, Broad Street and Germantown Avenue Triangle**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Construction in the public right-of-way

Applicant: SEPTA

Presenter: JMT Architecture

Angela Dixon and Chantal Frances began the presentation at the minute mark (02:11:22). Ms. Frances presented the scope of the improvements for the project, which include accessibility upgrades to Erie Station on the Broad Street Line.

The project includes an elevator from street level down to the mezzanine level, elevators to the platforms below make the station fully accessible. The height of the elevator headhouse was lowered about 10" from the last presentation.

*Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (02:16:40).*

Commissioner Almiñana commented on the granite base material, which is not holding up well at other locations around the city. Another color will be investigated and sent to staff.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval with the proviso that the granite base material details be sent to staff.

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Almiñana (02:20:04), Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval the with proviso of the base material (8-0).*

## Presentations for Concept Review

### 1. 133-22

#### **Cobbs Creek Playground**

#### **Cobbs Creek Parkway between Catharine and Webster Streets**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Reconstruction of existing playground

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Presenter: Port

Nick Jabs presented the Rebuild project and asked for both concept and final approval (02:21:23). Street improvements are on-going but not part of this project's scope of work. Existing conditions include worn play equipment and disconnected spaces. Trees are to remain. The proposal provides a better sense of enclosure and more caregiver amenities. A "bean shaped" outdoor area with a walking path is the main focus of the project.

*Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (02:37:25)*

Commissioner Zacharjasz asked about the maintenance of the mulch area and if the area was pet friendly. Commissioner Nasser requested that the park have signs indicating the rules for the space. Further questions were asked by Chairperson Roesch and others about pea gravel, trees health, lighting levels, if fencing was included, and the material of the walking path. A better understanding of some of these details was asked for, including specifics about the proximity of the site work to the existing trees.

The Commission agreed to grant concept approval and give the presenters an opportunity to present for final review at the Art Commission special meeting, July 27th because of the tight construction timeline of the project.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for concept approval (03:02:49).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Nasser, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously for concept approval (8-0).*

### 2. 134-22

#### **Pine Road Bridge**

#### **Pine Road bridge over Pennypack Creek**

Review Type: Construction project paid with City funds

Project Details: Replace existing bridge structure

Applicant: Philadelphia Streets Department

Presenter: Gannett Fleming

Michael Urban, Tim Yiu, and Ryan Sen presented at the minute mark (03:03:49). Mr. Yiu requested conceptual and final approval.

Mr. Yiu presented an outline of the proposal including structural improvements, sidewalk repair, and a goal to mimic the existing appearance of the bridge. The bridge is located in the northwest corner of Pennypack Park and carries both vehicular, as well as pedestrian traffic and it connects neighborhoods in northeast Philadelphia.

Repairs will extend the life of the bridge and allow safe vehicular and pedestrian travel. The superstructure will be replaced as well as the concrete deck and sidewalks. Some existing stone will be reused in the new construction.

*Questions and comments from the Commission at the minute mark (03:13:53).*

Commissioner Almiñana asked about the color of the new concrete as the current weathered concrete is subdued in appearance. Sustainable material substitutions in the concrete mix should be considered. PennDOT guidelines will need to be followed for the strength of the concrete mix and stained concrete does not have consistent results.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (03:18:37).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner McEaney, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch. The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (7-0). Commissioner Zacharjasz was not present for this item.*

*Seeing no further comments or questions, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to adjourn at (03:19:24). Upon the motion made by Commissioner Osorio and seconded by Commissioner Febo San Miguel, the July 13, 2022 Philadelphia Art Commission meeting was concluded.*

**The next Art Commission will be a special meeting on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.**