



Minutes

The Philadelphia Art Commission

February 8, 2023 - 9:30 a.m.

Remote – Zoom Meeting – Hosted by DPZ

The Philadelphia Art
Commission

Established 1911

Members Present: Jose Almiñana, Carmen Febo San Miguel, Matthew Kenyatta, Raed Nasser, Sarah McEaney, Mario Zacharjasz, Pepón Osorio, and Robert Roesch

Meeting of the Philadelphia Art Commission

Robert Roesch

Chair

José Almiñana

Deborah Cahill

Carmen Febo San Miguel

Matthew Kenyatta

Sarah McEaney

Raed Nasser

Pepón Osorio

Mario Zacharjasz

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 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.*

C. Beige Berryman

Staff

Chair Roesch called the meeting to order (00:02:04).

Minutes

- October 12, 2022 meeting minutes
- November 9, 2022 meeting minutes

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve the October and November minutes (00:02:59).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEaney and seconded by Commissioner Nasser, the consensus vote carried all in favor to approve the meeting minutes from October and November.

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Report of the Sign and Streeterly Committee – January 25, 2023

Sign Applications

Second Review:

1. 229-21

Pier 5

7 N Columbus Boulevard

First Reviews:

1. 6-23

Logan Circle - Public Garden Collection

200 N 19 Street

2. 7-23

SEPTA Erie Station

N Broad Street and Erie Avenue

3. 16-23

T.M. Peirce Elementary School Signage

2300 W. Cambria Street

4. 8-23

KindBody

1418 Walnut Street

5. 9-23

Foot Locker

1519-21 Chestnut Street

6. 10-23

Hangry Joe's

300 Market Street

7. 11-23

Dunkin'

811 S Broad Street

Streeterly Structure Applications

First Reviews:

1. 12-23

Pumpkin

1713 South Street

2. 13-23

The Goat's Beard

4201 Main Street

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3. 14-23

Jerry's Bar

129 W Laurel St

4. 15-23

AKA RS Liquor

135 S 18 Street

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Sign and Streeter Committee from January 25, 2023 (00:03:51).

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

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the report of the Sign and Streeter Committee (7-0).

Administrative Agenda

1. 17-23

Science Leadership Academy at Beeber School

5925 Malvern Avenue

Review Type: Minor construction project paid with City funds

Project Details: HVAC system upgrades

Applicant: Philadelphia School District

Ms. Berryman presented this item (00:04:45). The scope of work includes HVAC upgrades and a roof mounted chiller that is set back 30' from the façade. A new gas meter on the exterior at ground level will receive a small, new fence enclosure. This location is discreet at the back corner of an existing parking lot.

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:05:15).

Commissioner Almiñana inquired about drawings for this item, which were then shown on the screen. Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion (00:08:29).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Zacharjasz and seconded by Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chair Roesch. Motion carried unanimously to approve the administrative item (7-0).

Presentations for Final Review

1. 103-21

Olney Recreation Center 100 E Godfrey Avenue

Review Type: Construction project located on City property
Project Details: Architectural revisions to previously approved project
Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation
Presenter: Kelly Maiello Architects

Troy Leonard presented the design modifications to the previously approved project. The Art Commission approved the project on September 1, 2021. The masonry window openings are now divided, and the surround material changed. The exterior vertical fins now have an open design, the decorative elements have been eliminated. The depth of the roof overhang has been reduced.

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:14:39).

Commissioner Zacharjasz and Commissioner Almiñana asked about the size of the windows, and the mesh screens. Discussion continued on the reflection properties of the materials, maintenance, and bird safety.

Commissioner Almiñana requested that the gas meters on the front façade get screened. Commissioners McEneaney voiced support for the red color of the fins but wondered about the potential for climbing them.

Chair Roesch summarized comments from the Commission including the bird-friendly glass for the windows, screen for the gas meter, and assurance that climbing the fins was not possible. The additional details could be sent to Ms. Berryman for administrative review.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Commissioner Almiñana made a motion for approval with the proviso that additional drawing details get sent to staff. This was seconded by Commissioner Kenyatta (00:26:19).

Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chair Roesch. Motion carried unanimously for final approval, with additional information to be submitted (8-0).

2. 44-22

PHL Airport Restroom Renovations Phases 5-9 8000 Essington Avenue

Review Type: Construction project located on City property
Project Details: 30 restroom renovations, 2 new restroom sets, existing public art relocation
Applicant: Philadelphia International Airport
Presenter: HDR

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Ruth Krieger began the presentation by reviewing the entry concept, color, and renovation of existing restrooms. Two new restroom locations would be added, and the existing public art that's currently installed would need to be relocated because of the entry renovations (00:29:40).

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:40:11).

Commissioner McEneaney asked about One Percent for Art requirement. Currently there is an open call for the Phase IV work.

Ms. Krieger clarified the companion and gender neutral restrooms for Commissioner Kenyatta.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:43:14).

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 Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chair Roesch. Motion carried unanimously for final approval (7-0). Commissioner Zacharjasz recused himself from this item.

3. 99-22

Lawncrest Library

6098 Rising Sun Avenue

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Site and building improvements

Applicant: Free Library of Philadelphia

Presenter: Community Ventures

Andrew Ferrarelli of Sitio, Katrina Rogus of Salt Design Studio, and Patrick Isaac of Community Ventures were the presenters for this project. Mr. Isaac mentioned that the project received concept approval in May 2022 (00:45:16). Community engagement, conservation of existing public art, and landscape design were discussed. Interior renovation work would also be completed.

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:54:54).

Regarding storefront system glazing, Commissioner Almiñana suggested the use of bird-friendly glass. Commissioners voiced general appreciation for the improvements.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion (00:56:20).19).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner McEneaney, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chair Roesch. Motion carried unanimously for final approval (7-0).

4. 208-22

McVeigh Recreation Center

400 E. Ontario Street

Review Type: Construction project on City property

Project Details: Site and building improvements

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Presenter: Impact Services

Sara Pevaroff Schuh of Salt Design Studio began the presentation followed by the Impact Services team. The site context, site design, community engagement, and existing conditions were presented. The front entry bosque, furnishings, and design were reviewed in detail.

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:11:53).

Chair Roesch commented that the improved entry sightlines and reuse of the concrete material were positive aspects. Ms. Rogus clarified that all the trees proposed are new plantings. Commissioner Almiñana questioned the success of the new plantings due to the surface paver design. Irrigation would be needed. Ms. Schuh explained the planting detail was unique and is a combination of porous joints between the areas of the reused concrete pavers.

Commissioner Zacharjasz observed that due to the southeast exposure of the front elevation, the amount of sunlight may be of concern. He also recommended that a grill along the ground in front of the entry should be built into the design to help keep the entrance clean.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to continue the project's review with the landscape details and window details to be further explored at the next review (01:29:32).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Zacharjasz, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chair Roesch. Motion carried unanimously to continue (8-0).

5. 210-22

20th and Arch Streets Building Relocation

3250 Sedgley Drive – revised location

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Relocation of former gas filling station

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Presenter: Pennoni

This presentation began at the minute mark (01:30:43). Sean Smith presented the project followed by Wale Mabogunje, and Sam Olshin. This project is a relocation of a former filling station building to a new location in Fairmount Park. The chosen site is based on feedback by the Commission in November 2022.

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The use of the relocated structure was clarified, it will serve as additional office space for the Bicycle Coalition. The security concern of the previously proposal location is addressed with this new location.

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:38:11).

Members of the Commission commended the new location. Commissioner Zacharjasz had questions about the lighting, security, and landscape (01:38:53). There was a suggestion for additional landscape and sitework in the future, as budget allows.

Questions and comments from the public (01:41:10).

Susanna Barucco expressed concerns about the absence of interpretation and context of the historic structure.

In response, Commissioner McEneaney asked for someone from the Bicycle Coalition to comment on the context and future interpretation. Commissioner Osorio suggested that an electric charging station might be incorporated into the structure in the future.

Returning to public comment, Shaun from the Lemon Hill neighbors group stated that the group wasn't informed about the project until recently.

Aparna Palantino, from Parks and Recreation responded to the notification concern (01:47:53).

Jay Farrell did not support the location of the project (01:50:02).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion for approval (01:52:33).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Zacharjasz, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chair Roesch. Motion carried unanimously for final approval (8-0).

Presentations for Concept Review

1. 18-23

Pelbano Recreation Center 8101 Bustleton Avenue

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Exterior site improvements

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Presenter: Olin

Richard Roark began the presentation at the minute mark (01:53:57).

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Mr. Roark presented the project and outlined the earth disturbance, prior Parks and Recreation work on the project, equipment improvements, and site improvements.

Questions and comments from the Commission (02:08:46).

Commissioner Febo San Miguel inquired about the hours of operation and lighting. Commissioner Zacharjasz asked about drainage. Mr. Roark explained the multi-purpose field would not include any change in grade and the existing lighting was sufficient.

Angela Dixon from Rebuild answered some of the surface material questions in more detail (02:14:09).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion for concept approval. The lighting details need to return for further review.

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chair Roesch. Motion carried unanimously for concept approval (6-0).

2. 19-23

Simons Recreation Center 7200 Woolston Avenue

Review Type: Construction project located on City property
Project Details: Exterior site improvements
Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation
Presenter: Langan

Presenters for this project included Giovanni Fuentes and Andrew Pirie, who presented a description of the site context, site improvements, and playground design (02:21:03). Mr. Fuentes continued to present the landscape, locker rooms, and restroom designs.

Questions and comments from the Commission (02:34:27).

Chair Roesch inquired about the chain-link fence. Mr. Pirie responded that the existing fence will remain. Chair Roesch and Commissioner Zacharjasz encouraged the team to at least reduce the amount of fencing.

Commissioner Zacharjasz commented that a better understanding of the scope of work to the existing buildings is needed, including interior drawings and a rendering of the lighting. The discussion continued between Commissioners McEneaney, Roesch, and Zacharjasz regarding ADA circulation, LED lighting, regrading of the field, existing fence and stairs, and stormwater Management.



Chair Roesch summarized that interior details and fence details are needed, finish materials and colors are needed for the building work, and ADA inclusion and stormwater solutions are also needed at the next review. The One Percent for Art requirement fulfillment details should also be addressed (02:46:15).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion for conceptual approval (02:48:46).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner McEaney, Ms. Berryman polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz and Chair Roesch. Motion carried unanimously for concept approval (6-0).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to adjourn the February Art Commission meeting (02:49:26).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Zacharjasz and seconded by Commissioner Nasser, the motion carried with no nays. This concluded the February 8, 2023 Philadelphia Art Commission meeting.

The next Art Commission meeting will be held Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.