



## Philadelphia Art Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 13, 2023 - 9:30 AM

The Philadelphia Art  
Commission  
Established 1911

Robert Roesch  
Chair

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

Alex M. Smith  
Director

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

### Meeting of the Philadelphia Art Commission

*Alex Smith – Director of the Art Commission – introduced the Zoom platform and remote Art Commission meeting 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 after the meeting and the meeting agenda and materials can be found on the website at: (<https://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/>).*

*Alex Smith welcomed new commission member, James (Jim) Lowe, of the Department of Public Property, who took the place of Commissioner Deborah Cahill, followed by a poll of 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. If you have any submitted comments through email, staff will add those to the record. Thank you.*

*Chairman Roesch called the meeting to order at the mark in video (00:03:09).*

### Minutes

- July 12, 2023, meeting minutes

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission, Chairman Roesch asked for a motion to approve the July Minutes (00:03:27).

*Motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Nasser.*

*Consensus of the vote carried all in favor of approving the meeting minutes from July, with no nays.*



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*Director*

## **Report of the Sign and Streeter Committee – August 30, 2023**

### **Sign Applications**

#### *Second Reviews:*

- 1. 145-23  
Jewelers' Row Gateway Signage**  
Various locations including 700 block of Sansom Street and on 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Streets
- 2. 16-23  
T.M. Pierce Elementary School**  
2829-59 N 23rd Street (2300 W Cambria St)
- 3. 229-21  
Pier 5**  
7 N Columbus Boulevard

#### *First Reviews:*

- 1. 186-23  
Parkway Outpost Sign Package**  
2500 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
- 2. 190-23  
Octavius V. Catto Memorial – Acknowledgement Plaque Proposal**  
1400 JFK Boulevard
- 3. 195-23  
CHUBB**  
2000 Arch Street
- 4. 192-23  
Jessup House**  
123 S 12th Street
- 5. 181-23  
Don Barriga**  
703 Chestnut Street
- 6. 182-23  
Hi-Lo Taco Co.**  
1109 Walnut Street
- 7. 183-23  
Brooklyn Dumpling Shop**  
308 South Street

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8. **184-23**  
**James**  
114 S 19th Street
9. **187-23**  
**Red Lion Inn & Suites**  
1208 Walnut Street
10. **185-23**  
**First Trust Bank**  
2828-30 South Street
11. **188-23**  
**Tapster**  
110-16 S 16th Street
12. **189-23**  
**High Street**  
836 Chestnut Street
13. **191-23**  
**Miami Shop**  
648 South Street
14. **193-23**  
**Sola Salons**  
1503-05 Walnut Street
15. **194-23**  
**Laser Away**  
1503 Walnut Street

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### **Streeterly Structure Applications**

#### *First Reviews:*

1. **196-23**  
**Via Locusta**  
1723 Locust Street
2. **197-23**  
**Prunella**  
112 S 13th Street

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Sign and Streeterly Committee from August 30, 2023 (00:04:21).

*Motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner McEaney.*

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*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Commissioner Lowe abstained.*

*The Commission voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Sign Committee and Streetery Committee from August 30, 2023.*

### **Administrative Agenda**

#### **1. 207-23**

##### **Bus Shelter Upgrades**

##### **Various locations**

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

Project Details: Three new bus shelter installations

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

Mr. Smith presented two administrative items, beginning with the Bus Shelter Upgrades (00:06:00).

This administrative item proposes several new bus shelters submitted by the Office of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability, also known as OTIS. These shelters are part of their ongoing shelter improvement program for the city. The Commission has reviewed a series of these over the last year or so.

This proposal is for three new bus shelters at various locations around the city. All the locations are proposing new shelters, where currently no shelter exists.

Staff has reviewed each location in terms of complete street standards. Additionally, the Streets Department will also review these locations for compliance. Staff recommends approval for the shelters as they offer improved conditions for transit riders.

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

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Kenyatta.*

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve the Administrative Item Bus Shelter Upgrades Various Locations, (3 new shelters) (9-0).*

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Alex M. Smith  
*Director*

**2. 208-23  
Conservation of Multiple Sculptures  
Various locations**

Review Type: Public art maintenance  
Project Details: General cleaning and maintenance treatments  
Applicant: Office of Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy (OACCE)

This administrative item proposal comes from the Office of Arts Culture and the Creative Economy, also known as OACCE. They are proposing conservation work on 11 public art sculptures to take place during the remainder of 2023. The work will be performed by professional conservators who have annual on call contracts with the city. Five of these pieces required emergency conservation work, which means that the work is either already in process or has been completed at this time. The list of 11 pieces was provided as part of the Commission packet and is uploaded on the website.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:08:40).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve the Administrative Item Conservation of Multiple Sculptures Various Locations (11 sculptures) (9-0).*

**Presentations for Final Review**

**1. 45-23  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park - Wall  
1538 Belmont Avenue**

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

Mr. Smith stated that there were two reviews one for final review of the wall, and one for concept approval review for other Phase I elements (00:09:32).

Jeff Goldstein began the presentation with responses from the Commission and two requests, to review the first phase of construction of the wall and secondly, present the park in its entirety at a concept level (00:10:41).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (00:39:19).*

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Commissioner Kenyatta asked about projection of the lights. Commissioner Almiñana asked about the layout of the wall and existing trees and gave suggestions. Discussion continued on the details of the wall and trees (00:51:40).

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Chairman Roesch raised concerns about skateboarding around the pod like planters (00:55:47). The Commission discussed final approval for the wall (00:57:42). Commissioner Lowe inquired about the signage and material of the artwork.

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

Chairman Roesch suggested to return with details on the signage, dealing with skateboarding, and tree canopy (01:00:42).

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve final of the wall and concept approval for elements of Phase I (01:02:30).

Alex M. Smith  
*Director*

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Osorio.*

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve final of the wall and concept approval for elements of Phase I (9-0).*

### **Presentations for Concept Review**

#### **1. 45-23**

##### **Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park – Phase 1 1538 Belmont Avenue**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Exterior site improvements

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR)

Presenter: Digsau

See above notes. Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve final of the wall and concept approval for elements of Phase I (01:02:30).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Osorio.*

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve final of the wall and concept approval for elements of Phase I (9-0).*

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*Director*

## 2. 69-20

### **North Central Public Safety Building 2100 Diamond Street**

Review Type: Construction project of new City facility

Project Details: New building construction and associated site improvements

Applicant: Philadelphia Department of Public Property (DPP)

Presenter: Ballinger

Stephen Bartlett began the presentation about the project (01:04:30).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (01:18:28).*

Chairman Roesch and Commissioner Zacharjasz commended about the brickwork. Commissioner Nasser inquired about a Percent for Art requirement. Discussion continued about the architecture, elements of community input and engagement, trees, and interior views of the building.

Chairman Roesch suggested to return with additional information regarding the proposed interior, lighting, and more info regarding past and future public engagement (01:36:09).

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as concept approval (01:36:26).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Zacharjasz.*

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried to approve as concept approval, with the understanding of the requests to be provided prior to final approval (5-0).*

*Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner McEneaney, and Commissioner Osorio abstained.*

## 3. 209-23

### **Irish and Scottish Memorials - Temporary Relocation 109 Spruce Street (Foglietta Plaza)**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Temporary relocation of Public Art

Applicant: PennDOT

Presenter: PennDOT

This project was presented by Liz Lankeau, Debbie Ferraro, and Doug Robbins, who began the presentation at the minute mark in video (01:40:23).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (02:00:00).*

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Commissioner Febo San Miguel commented on the final restoration phase.

*Questions and comments from the public (02:01:32).*

Mary Purcell expressed her position, which requested additional work with the community on the final restoration rather than opposing the project. Ms. Lankenau addressed the comments.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as concept approval (02:15:54).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve as concept approval (6-0).*

### **Break at minute mark in video (02:16:50)**

Due to tech difficulties Wynnefield Library was presented before Panati Playground

#### **4. 211-23**

##### **Wynnefield Library**

##### **5325 Overbrook Avenue**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Site and landscape improvements

Applicant: Rebuild

Presenter: Ground Reconsidered

Lindsay Stanislaw presented existing conditions, purpose of the project, and budget for the construction (02:19:55).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (02:30:40).*

Commissioner Zacharjasz inquired about the wall and matching of the brick. Commissioner Febo San Miguel wanted to know about the use of the space and lighting. Chairman Roesch added that a lighting rendering would be helpful and suggested to return with lighting, a decision on the wall options, and details on the landscaping.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as concept approval, with proviso (02:35:47).

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

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*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairman Roesch.*

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Mario Zacharjasz

*Motion carried unanimously to approve as concept approval (6-0).*

## **5. 210-23**

### **Panati Playground**

#### **3101-27 N 22nd Street**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: New building construction and associated site improvements

Applicant: Rebuild

Presenter: CICADA

Alex M. Smith  
*Director*

Christopher Stromberg and LeeAnn Suen presented the project (02:36:47).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (02:51:06).*

Members of the Commissioner inquired about the budget for the project, which was \$3.7 million for construction and a total of \$5.5 million in total costs. Additional questions inquired about the Percent for Art requirement, windows selection, and security needs.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as concept approval (02:58:45).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Osorio.*

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve as concept approval (6-0).*

## **6. 212-23**

### **The Africa Center**

#### **5434-36 Chester Avenue**

Review Type: Construction project utilizing City funds

Project Details: Construction of new building and rehabilitation of existing building

Applicant: African Cultural Alliance of North America (ACANA)

Presenter: Kelly Maiello Architects (KMA)

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Michel Saewert began the presentation at the minute mark (03:00:26).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (03:16:30).*

Chairman Roesch inquired about the window art panel materials and the Percent for Art requirement. Commissioner Lowe and Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked about the steel panels, budget, and timeline of the project. Discussion continued about the panels, proposed color options, and the entry canopy.

*Questions and comments from the Public (03:29:51).*

Adrian Hernandez, member of the public requested clarification on the window coverings and suggested a contrasting color such as orange or red and asked if removable panels would be considered.

Chairman Roesch suggested when the project return for final review and approval with more information on the panels, window cleaning, and other details. (00:35:12).

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as concept approval (03:35:40).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve as concept approval (6-0).*

## **7. 213-23**

### **Chief Tamanend Statue**

**1301 N Beach Street**

Review Type: Public Art

Project Details: New Public Art on City property

Applicant: OACCE

Presenter: Chief Tamanend at Historic Penn Treaty Park Committee

Marguerite Anglin presented an overview of the project (03:37:02) and introduced Barbara Morehead, who began the presentation (03:40:00) followed by Terry Jones (03:43:39).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (03:52:34).*

Commissioner Lowe commented on the size of the statue and inquired about the inspiration of Chief Tamanend. Mr. Jones responded to the comments. Commissioner Febo San Miguel suggested having a QR Code to place additional information on the plaque and asked where about funding sources. There was a question about engagement and discussions with the Board of the Friends of Penn Treaty Park.

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Chairman Roesch suggested the potential for final approval for the project. Commissioner Nasser agreed but added he wanted to confirm support from the current Board of the Friends of Penn Treaty Park (04:00:29).

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as final approval, with proviso (04:00:55).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Lowe.*

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve as final approval, with proviso (5-0).*

## **8. 214-23**

### **PHL Airport Restroom Terminal A-West - Percent for Art 8500 Essington Avenue (PHL)**

Review Type: Public Art

Project Details: Wall, floor tile, and ceiling art proposal at PHL Airport

Applicant: OACCE

Presenter: OACCE and Serena Saunders

Marguerite Anglin began the presentation with an overview of the project (04:02:06) followed by the Artist of the project, Serena Saunders, who continued with the proposal presentation (04:04:01).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (04:14:21).*

Commissioner Roesch inquired about the materials. Commissioner Lowe expressed concerns about breakage to the tiles and expansion joints. The Commission commended the color palette.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as final approval (04:18:48).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve as final approval (5-0).*



**9. 215-23  
SEPTA 19th Street Station ADA Improvements  
19th & Market Streets**

Review Type: Construction project located within the Right-of-Way  
Project Details: New SEPTA elevators and stairwell headhouse improvements  
Applicant: SEPTA  
Presenter: Sowinski Sullivan

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Greg Mastalerz began the presentation at the minute mark in video (04:20:29).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (04:31:37).*

Chairman Roesch express concerns about the glass block and white grout on the headhouse, the 14-ft. height and roof. Commissioner Lowe inquired about signage for use of wheelchair. Commissioner Febo San Miguel mentioned the upgrading signs and posters for communication. Commissioner McEneaney spoke about the ironing.

Mr. Smith, staff of the Art Commission added that SEPTA folks are working on the new signage and wayfinding projects are going to be returning to the Commission with their next round for certain phases, so the Commission will have an opportunity to provide the current feedback for the signage in particular, moving forward (04:40:34). Commissioner Febo San Miguel commented on the lighting and asked to provide lighting rendering to Mr. Smith.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as final approval (04:43:09).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, and Chairman Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve as final approval, with proviso (5-0).*

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to adjourn (04:43:46).

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

This concluded the September 13, 2023, Philadelphia Art Commission.

**The next Art Commission will be held Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.**