



## Philadelphia Art Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 - 9:30 AM

*Members Present: José Almiñana, Deborah Cahill, Carmen Febo San Miguel, Matthew Kenyatta, Raed Nasser, Pepón Osorio, Mario Zacharjasz, and Robert Roesch*

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Chair

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Deborah Cahill  
Carmen Febo San Miguel  
Matthew Kenyatta  
James Lowe  
Sarah McEaney  
Raed Nasser  
Pepón Osorio  
Mario Zacharjasz

Alex M. Smith  
Director

### **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 the Commissioners, 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.*

*Chairperson Roesch called the meeting to order at the mark in video (00:02:10).*

### **MEETING MINUTES**

- September 13, 2023

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

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

*Consensus of the vote carried all in favor to approve the meeting minutes from September, with no nays (6-0).*



## **REPORT OF THE SIGN & STREETERY COMMITTEE – OCTOBER 25, 2023**

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### **Sign Applications**

#### Second Reviews:

- 1. 146-23  
Flight Club**  
1411 Walnut Street (*From August 30, 2023, SSC meeting*)
- 2. 191-23  
Miami Shop**  
648 South Street

Robert Roesch  
*Chair*

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

#### First Reviews:

- 1. 252-23  
Jimmy Johns**  
1701-05 Chestnut Street
- 2. 253-23  
Bank of America**  
2027 Walnut Street
- 3. 254-23  
Blueprint Cookies**  
268 S 20th Street

Alex M. Smith  
*Director*

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Sign Committee and StreeterY Committee from October 25<sup>th</sup> (00:04:05).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairperson Roesch.*

*The Commission voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Sign Committee and StreeterY Committee from October (6-0).*



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## **ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

### **1. Approval of the 2024 Art Commission and Sign & Streeter Committee Public Meeting Dates**

Mr. Smith presented three Administrative Items beginning with approval of the 2024 Art Commission and Sign & Streeter Committee Public Meeting Dates (00:04:30).

The Commission meeting schedule will follow the typical meeting scheduling of the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 9:30 am. Just as a note for Commissioners as well as members of the public, we have added an August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, which has usually been a month off in years past. We're adding that based off of the number of applications that we've received over the last year and a half. The Art Commission Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 9:30 a.m.

- January 10
- February 14
- March 13
- April 10
- May 8
- June 12
- July 10
- August 14
- September 11
- October 9
- November 13
- December 11

Our 2024 Sign and Streeter Subcommittee Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month, starting at 9:30 a.m. except for the month of December which will be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> one week prior, due to the following week's city holiday. These meetings happen two weeks in advance of the Art Commission meeting. Meetings are the last Wednesday of each month, starting at 9:30 a.m. unless noted.

- January 31
- February 28
- March 27
- April 24
- May 29
- June 26
- July 31
- August 28
- September 25
- October 30
- November 27
- December 18\*

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Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the 2024 meeting schedule (00:05:53).

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

Robert Roesch  
*Chair*

*The vote was taken by consensus.*

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Deborah Cahill  
Carmen Febo San Miguel  
Matthew Kenyatta  
James Lowe  
Sarah McEaney  
Raed Nasser  
Pepón Osorio  
Mario Zacharjasz

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

Alex M. Smith  
*Director*

## **2. 259-23**

### **Phillies Family Lounge Addition 1 Citizens Bank Way**

Review Type: New construction on City property  
Project Details: New addition to Citizens Bank Park  
Applicant: Philadelphia Phillies

The Philadelphia Phillies are proposing a small addition to their existing stadium facility at the sports complex in South Philadelphia. The proposal scope of work includes a 3,052 square foot addition to the stadium for a new lounge for families of both the Phillies and visiting team members. Right now, the current family lounge does not adequately meet the needs of either team. The addition will be attached to the eastern facade of the stadium, which is located off Darian Street.

The proposed edition will be constructed of a portion of an existing parking lot. The north and east facades of the proposal are mostly shielded from public view, due to the existing brick wall and parking lot gate along Darren Street, and only the southern facade will be viewable from a public access to the Philly stadium from Darian Street entrance.

Further, the brick facade and the window and door. Details of the addition will be designed to match the existing Phillies Stadium.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public.

*The vote was taken by consensus (00:08:14).*

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

## **3. 260-23**

### **Waterview Recreation Center Rehabilitation 5826 McMahan Street**

Review Type: Minor construction on City property  
Project Details: Routine roof rehabilitation and exterior maintenance  
Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR)

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*Director*

This administrative item proposes the rehabilitation of various exterior elements at the Waterview Recreation Center in the Germantown neighborhood of Northwest Philadelphia.

The scope of work includes rehabbing the roof areas of exterior masonry, terracotta, cornices, and downspouts and prime all of which is primarily through restoration and in and where necessary replacement within in-kind materials and elements.

Commissioner Cahill wanted to know about the rain garden and maintenance. Edward Schmitz, of PPR responded and provided an overview.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion, with a caveat to send drawings to Mr. Smith and AC staff (00:13:22).

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

*The vote was taken by consensus.*

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

## **PRESENTATIONS FOR FINAL REVIEW**

### **1. 139-23**

#### **River Soundings**

#### **601 N Columbus Boulevard**

Review Type: Public art

Project Details: New outdoor sculpture for PHDC Percent for Art program

Applicant: Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation (PHDC)

Presenter: Haddad|Drugan

Laura Haddad began the presentation at the minute mark (00:14:25).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (00:26:43).*

Commissioner Febo San Miguel commended the project and Commissioner Osorio wanted to know if there would be any movement of the pieces. Ms. Haddad addressed the Commission.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:29:56).

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



*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.*

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*Motion carried to approve as final approval (6-0) with one recusal. Commissioner Zacharjasz recused himself from this item.*

**2. 159-23**

**Armenian Heritage Walk  
2500 Spring Garden Street**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property  
Project Details: Exterior site improvements and relocation of public art  
Applicant: Armenian Heritage Foundation of Philadelphia, Inc  
Presenter: Armenian Heritage Foundation of Philadelphia, Inc

Kurk Selverian began the presentation at the minute mark (00:31:36).

Commissioner Febo San Miguel mentioned how very detailed the presentation was in responding to the requests from the Commission (00:42:11). Commissioner Cahill wanted clarification if the drainage would be included in the scope of work. Discussion continued on the topic.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:45:53).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.*

*Motion carried to approve as final approval (7-0).*

**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

Doug Robbins began the presentation followed by Liz Lankenau (00:47:14).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (00:56:51).*

Commissioner Cahill inquired about the landscaping component, which was addressed by Frank Bonito of the I-95 CAP team.

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Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:58:48).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.*

*Motion carried to approve as final approval (6-0) with one recusal. Commissioner Zacharjasz recused himself from this item.*

## **PRESENTATIONS FOR CONCEPT REVIEW**

### **1. 261-23 Vare Recreation Center - Percent for Art 2600 Morris Street**

Review Type: Public art

Project Details: New outdoor sculpture for City's Percent for Art program

Applicant: Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy (OACCE)

Presenter: OACCE, Dymond Whipper-Young and Michael Coppage

Marguerite Anglin began the presentation (01:00:03) followed by Michael Coppage and Dymond Whipper-Young (01:02:38).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (01:15:06).*

Chairperson Roesch commented on the scans and inquired about how the project selected the figure. Additional comments from the Commission included having a helpful tool to educate the community via QR Code, asked for additional renderings, inquired about fees/compensations for the work, maintenance, and discussed the spacing behind the sculpture.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (01:25:16).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairperson Roesch.*

*Motion carried to approve as concept approval (6-2). Commissioner Almiñana was unavailable for the vote. Commissioner Kenyatta abstained from this item.*

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**2. 262-23**

**Pennypack Park Universal Playground  
Rhawn Street & Holmehurst Avenue**

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

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Tyler Silvesto began the presentation at the minute mark (01:27:23).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (01:40:00).*

The Commission had questions about the parking lot striping and the life of the cork material. Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked about renderings for between the fence and playground and Commissioner Cahill inquired about replacement of the trees being removed. Discussion continued about the trees.

Chairperson Roesch agreed with Commissioner Febo San Miguel idea, to send Mr. Smith and AC staff a rendering of the fence, a drawing that shows the fence line and striping that would be for ADA parking (01:46:46).

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (01:47:22).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairperson Roesch.*

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

***Break at the minute mark in video (01:48:16).***

**3. 263-23**

**Hawthorne Cultural Center  
1200 Carpenter Street**

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

Landscape Architect with Gilmore Associates Corey Wilson, who represents a team of landscape architects, engineers, and planners, presented the Hawthorne Cultural Center (01:53:49).

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*Questions and comments from the Commission (02:04:08).*

Commissioner Cahill asked about the existing trees, size of the new trees, and pruning of the trees. Commissioner Nasser mentioned community engagement and asked about the fence.

Darby Mann, of Parks & Recreation addressed the Commission about the community engagement process and doing a groundbreaking (02:07:47). Discussion continued regarding community engagement.

Commissioner Zacharjasz added that community engagement should happen before the groundbreaking for more input (02:11:14).

Chairperson Roesch proposed that the project be viewed as a concept presentation until after the next community engagement (02:12:31).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (02:13:06).

*Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Zacharjasz (02:13:06).*

Ms. Mann mentioned her concern about the timeline to the Commission after the motion was made. Discussion continued between the presenters and Commission (02:13:22 - 02:19:35).

Chairperson Roesch suggested having the presenters return after they'd had another meeting with the public, cleaned up drawings that have details of what the Commission asked for, and an explanation of what Commissioner Nasser had asked for (02:17:55). Brief remarks were made.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (02:19:38).

*Mr. Smith clarified the motions and the need for roll call and a new motion, then went through the previous motion to continue, which was not for approval and polled the Commission for the vote: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairperson Roesch (02:19:48).*

*The motion was carried unanimously to not approve the initial motion (7-0).*

*Chairperson Roesch restated the previous motion made by Commissioner Zacharjasz and Commissioner Nasser of second proposal, to have the presenters return after they've had their third meeting with the public, cleaned up drawings that have details of what the Commission asked for, and an explanation of what Commissioner Nasser asked for (02:21:02).*



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*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Zacharjasz, and Chairperson Roesch.*

*Motion carried unanimously to have the project return after the applicant has hosted a third meeting with the public, cleaned up drawings that have details of what the Commission asked for, and an explanation of what Commissioner Nasser asked for (6-0).*

**4. 267-23**

**Lardner's Point Pump Station  
6301 Milnor Street**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property  
Project Details: New building construction, rehabilitation of existing building and exterior site improvements  
Applicant: Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)  
Presenter: Brown & Caldwell and Kelly Maiello Architects

Chris Patakis began the presentation at the minute mark (02:21:57), followed by Kathy Babcock of Kelly Maiello Architects (02:33:53).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (02:43:58).*

Chairperson Roesch commended the project. Commissioner Febo San Miguel raised concerns about bird safety and stormwater management. Commissioner Cahill agreed and added that additional landscape plans were needed. Chairperson Roesch asked about the One Percent for Art requirement. Mr. Patakis addressed the Commission inquiries.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for conceptual approval (02:47:56).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch (6-0).*

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

**5. 264-23**

**Franklin Square Restroom Building  
200 N 6th Street**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property  
Project Details: New restroom building  
Applicant: Historical Philadelphia Inc. & Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR)  
Presenter: DIGSAU

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Jules Dingle began the presentation at the minute mark in video (02:49:01).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (03:00:59).*

Commissioner Cahill expressed concerns about the roof maintenance, birds and other flybys, and trees.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (03:03:22).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch (6-0).*

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

## **6. 265-23**

### **34th Street Station ADA Improvements 34th and Market Streets**

Review Type: Construction project located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: New ADA elevator and headhouse improvements

Applicant: SEPTA

Presenter: Gannett Fleming

Tim Yiu began the presentation (03:04:34) followed by Will Kunkle, of SEPTA who continued (03:05:28).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (03:08:31).*

Mr. Smith noted that over the next few months, SEPTA will bring a series of ADA improvements to Trolley and MFL stations, each with a similar design and material palette. SEPTA requests that these projects be reviewed administratively as they all propose essentially the same project at different locations. Art Commission staff would still provide each location's materials (03:08:31).

Chairperson Roesch confirmed that if the projects came through as an identical form, they could be used as administrative items (03:10:42).

Commissioner Cahill inquired about proper lighting on 37<sup>th</sup> Street, which was addressed by Mr. Kunkle.

Chairperson Roesch proposed if there's any change at all, that it would have to be presented to the full Commission at a later date (03:12:30).



Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for the ask of administrative approval for SEPTA ADA improvements for upcoming trolley and MFL station locations (03:12:46).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch (6-0).*

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

Tim Yiu then continued with the presentation of 34<sup>th</sup> Street (03:13:35).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (03:23:11).*

Chairperson Roesch inquired about the grout between the glass and referenced the headhouse at Broad & Race.

Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked about the proposed gates.

Chairperson Roesch would like to see a drawing of a smaller headhouse height, and less grey connection for the glass block (03:26:12).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for concept approval (03:26:43).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch (6-0).*

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

## **7. 266-23**

### **37th Street Station ADA Improvements**

#### **37th and Spruce Streets**

Review Type: Construction project located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: New ADA elevator and headhouse improvements

Applicant: SEPTA

Presenter: JMT

Mike Grabenstein provided an overview of the project (03:27:50).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (03:33:22).*

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Chairperson Roesch requested a height reduction of the headhouse.

Commissioner Cahill and Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked about the location of trees once they are moved and where the new trees were going.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (03:35:18).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.*

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

## **8. 226-22**

### **Narrow Bus Shelter**

#### **Various Locations**

Review Type: Construction project located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: New narrow bus shelter design

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

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

Neil Garry began the presentation at the minute mark in video (03:36:30).

*Questions and comments from the Commission (03:42:11).*

Based on the drawing, Chairperson Roesch clarified that the signage and glass wall was ADA compliant. Commissioner Nasser asked about having leaning/resting bars. Commissioner Cahill spoke about the advertisement and suggested information about SEPTA such as: maps, routes, what SEPTA is doing, etc.

Commissioner Kenyatta agreed with Commissioner Cahill comments regarding the advertisement and inquired about the angle of the ad space. Discussion continued about the headhouse.

Chairperson Roesch proposed that the project return with drawings that the Commission can better understand, that has the leaning bar, and a perspective drawing of the advertisement position. Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Kenyatta, and Commissioner Cahill added they needed more info on ADA accessibility, and a perspective rendering as well as maps and routes shown as part of the proposal (03:50:44).

Mr. Smith clarified the Commission requests for presenters, that they would return with additional material, a leaning bar would be required as part of this series of shelters,

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

Alex M. Smith  
*Director*

pedestrian flow diagrams and turning radius in particular for ADA access, location of where busses will board in relation to the shelter.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for concept approval, with proviso (03:58:08).

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

*Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Cahill, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch (6-0).*

*Motion carried unanimously to approve as conceptual approval, with the above listed requirements (6-0).*

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to adjourn (03:59:02).

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

*Motion carried with no nays to adjourn the November 8, 2023, Philadelphia Art Commission meeting.*

**The next Art Commission will be held Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.**