



Philadelphia Art Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 - 9:30 AM

Members Present: José Almiñana, Carmen Febo San Miguel, Matthew Kenyatta, James Lowe, Raed Nasser, Sarah McEaney, and Robert Roesch

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Robert Roesch
Chair

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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 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/>).

*Mr. Smith 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.*

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

MEETING MINUTES

- January 10, 2024 meeting minutes
- February 14, 2024 meeting minutes

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the September Minutes (00:02:58).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner McEaney.

The vote was taken by consensus. Motion carried unanimously to approve the January 10, 2024 and February 14, 2024 meeting minutes (7-0).



REPORT OF THE SIGN AND STREETERY COMMITTEE – FEBRUARY 28, 2024

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Sign Applications

First Reviews:

1. **50-24**
The Noble
200-24 Spring Garden Street
2. **45-24**
Mulherin's
1102-48 Market Street
3. **44-24**
Pure Green
1124 Walnut Street
4. **46-24**
Philadelphia E&T Charter School
1709 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
5. **47-24**
Starbucks
100-20 N 18th Street
6. **48-24**
Gouldsburger's
100-20 N 18th Street
7. **49-24**
Dunkin'
1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Sign and StreeterY Committee from February 28, 2024 (00:04:09).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Nasser.

The vote was taken by consensus. Motion carried unanimously to approve (7-0).



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APPEAL OF THE SIGN AND STREETERY COMMITTEE – FEBRUARY 28, 2024

1. 44-24 Pure Green 1124 Walnut Street

Alex Smith provided an introduction of the project before passing it over to Sharon Brandt and Tiara Council, who presented (00:05:04).

Ms. Council and Ms. Brandt and members of the Commission discussed the design, structure, projection, recessed lighting, storefront window, and blade signs followed by Chairperson Roesch suggesting exploration of a more creative design, along with Commissioner Almiñana recommending a resubmission before the Sign Committee, which would be a continuance (00:08:52 - 00:23:20). Additional comments from the Commission were made about business's proposed sign and the regulations as it relates to the project (00:24:41 – 00:31:59).

The Commission motioned for a continuance, asking the applicant team to return to a future Sign and Streeter meeting with updates based on the discussion.

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEaney and seconded by Commissioner Almiñana.

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, and Chairperson Roesch

Motion carried unanimously to approve the project for continuance (7-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. 59-24 Schmidt Playground and Pool 113 W Ontario Street Review Type: Minor construction on City property Project Details: Playground and site improvements Applicant: Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR)

Mr. Smith presented five Administrative Items, which began with Schmidt Playground and Pool and required a consensus vote on all administrative items (00:33:41).

Questions and comments from the Commission were addressed by the Project Coordinator Jane Anderson, of Parks & Recreation (00:37:19).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:38:50).

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

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The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously for administrative approval of minor construction and site improvements to Schmidt Playground and Pool (7-0).

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2. 61-24

**McPherson Square Library
601 E Indiana Avenue**

Review Type: Minor construction on City property
Project Details: Roof and stormwater drainage rehabilitation
Applicant: SMP Architects (on behalf of Rebuild / Free Library of Philadelphia)

Alex M. Smith
Director

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:41:14).

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

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously for administrative approval of renovations to McPherson Square Library (7-0).

3. 60-24

**Major Crime Unit Building
4298 Macalester Street**

Review Type: Minor construction on City property
Project Details: New ADA improvements and minor interior alterations
Applicant: Department of Public Property (DPP)

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:42:54).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Lowe.

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously for administrative approval of minor construction, ADA improvements and minor interior alterations to the Major Crime Unit Building (7-0).



**4. 62-24
Indego IKE Smart City Kiosk
20th & Fairmount Streets**

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way
Project Details: New Indego IKE Smart City Kiosk installation
Applicant: Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS) (on behalf of Office of Transportation, Infrastructure and Sustainability (OTIS))

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Commissioner Kenyatta inquired about the location selection of the kiosks and data about ridership (44:42).

Discussion continued about the kiosks, location of the bikes, as well as the new technology. The Commission inquiries were addressed by Nate Bowman-Johnston, of Bicycle Transit Systems, (BTS) (00:51:09).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (01:00:56).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Kenyatta.

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously for administrative approval of new Indego IKE Smart City Kiosk installation (7-0).

**5. 63-24
Public Art Conservation
Various Locations**

Review Type: Public Art
Project Details: Annual conservation work of Public Art sculptures
Applicant: Association for Public Art (aPA)

Chairperson Roesch commented on the City's art collection and Commissioner Febo San Miguel requested clarification of the location for the sculptures (01:02:17).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (01:03:46).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner McEneaney.

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously for administrative approval of Annual conservation work of Public Art sculptures (7-0).



PRESENTATIONS FOR CONCEPT REVIEW

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1. 64-24

Cobbs Creek Golf Club - Maintenance Buildings 7400 Lansdowne Avenue

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: New building construction and associated site improvements

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR)

Presenter: Cobbs Creek Foundation and Blackney Hayes Architects

Donald Dissinger began the presentation with an introduction followed by Brian Conlon, who also presented (01:05:10).

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:22:18).

Commissioner Almiñana inquired about a fence being placed around the bioretention basin, the proposed drainage plan and course equipment. Mr. Conlon and Chris Stigler addressed the inquiries and provided information about the drainage system.

Based on comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch expressed several concerns and questions regarding proposed tree plantings, how drainage will be handled, how chemicals and fertilizers are being addressed and the stormwater management of the site, making sure that the functions of these maintenance buildings do not impact adjacent waterways. Commissioner Almiñana added comments about nearby steep slopes, mowing, and asked about the course equipment (01:34:52).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Mr. Smith reiterated Chairperson Roesch's request for a motion from the Commission (01:36:22).

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

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEaney, and Chairperson Roesch

The Commission voted unanimously for conceptual approval (7-0).

2. 71-24

AMY 5 at James Martin School 3380 Richmond Street

Review Type: Construction project utilizing City funds

Project Details: Major building reconstruction

Applicant: Philadelphia School District

Presenter: KSS Architects

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Maria Sourbeer introduced the project followed by Mayva Donnon, who began the presentation with Sara Poindexter, who spoke about the landscape (01:37:24).

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Chairperson Roesch inquired about the ground floor plan (01:49:46).

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Questions and comments from the Commission (01:56:51).

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Commissioner Lowe wanted to know about building elevations, and the proposed mechanical equipment on the roof. Commissioner Almiñana inquired about the grading of the site, stormwater, the lighting, noting preference for warm temperature lights of 3000K or less. He requested the team comply with lighting that was wildlife friendly, which was addressed by Ms. Donnon and Ms. Poindexter (01:59:51). With regards to the One Percent for Art, Ms. Donnon and Ms. Sourbeer noted they didn't need to comply, because there's no city dollars in the project because they're all federal funding. Commissioner McEneaney inquired about bird safe glass and asked if stones from the previous school building could be salvaged for benches. Commissioner Lowe wanted to know how specific properties were obtained for the facility requesting research, with regards to One Percent for Art requirements (02:03:58).

Alex M. Smith
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Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to return with more information on stormwater management, lighting, bird safe glass options, screen of the rooftop mechanical equipment, and a determination of the requirements of One Percent for Art (02:11:49).

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

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, and Chairperson Roesch

The Commission voted unanimously for concept approval (7-0).

**3. 65-24
Cherashore Playground
850 W Olney Avenue**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property
Project Details: Interior building and exterior site improvements
Applicant: Mt. Airy CDC (on behalf of Rebuild)
Presenter: Studio Sustena and LAYER Architecture

Philip Dawson, Director of Mt. Airy CDC began the presentation at the minute mark in video (02:13:53). Sara Poindexter presented a visual of the existing conditions, along with the design proposal (02:17:50) and Wolfran Arendt presented the existing building and renovation proposals (02:19:28).

Questions and comments from the Commission (02:27:25).

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Commissioner Almiñana inquired about the separation of the fence and community input for the lighting. Chairperson Roesch wanted to know about exterior of the building regarding graffiti and the lighting. Regarding Commissioner McEneaney's inquiry about the One Percent for Art, Michelle Shuman, of Rebuild stated that they are in touch with the Arts Office, and they will return for final review with more information. Commissioner Lowe wanted to know about security package of cameras. Discussion continued in reference to the canopy, elevations, and proposed materials (02:34:26).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (02:37:57).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Lowe.

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, and Chairperson Roesch

The Commission voted unanimously for concept approval (7-0).

4. 67-24

City Hall Visitor Center – Interior Mural 1400 John F. Kennedy Boulevard

Review Type: Public Art project located on City property

Project Details: Interior mural

Applicant: Mural Arts Philadelphia

Presenter: Mural Arts Philadelphia

Project Manager of Mural Arts Kate Jacobi began the presentation followed by Nathaniel Lee (02:39:18).

Questions and comments from the Commission (02:45:32).

Commissioner Almiñana asked about the lighting, and Commissioner McEneaney inquired about the background, which was addressed by Mr. Lee.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (02:48:03).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Almiñana.

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

The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (6-0).

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**5. 68-24
11th Street Station ADA Improvements
11th & Market Streets**

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way
Project Details: New ADA elevator and headhouse improvements
Applicant: SEPTA
Presenter: Sowinski Sullivan

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Brian Fey began the presentation at the minute mark in video (02:52:32) followed by Jack McElwee (02:54:00).

Chairperson Roesch suggested grey grout for the headhouse and asked about the proposed cables (03:02:09).

Questions and comments from the Public (03:05:25).

Will Tung was not in support of the project and provided reasons. Mr. McElwee responded to the comments.

John Walsh agreed with the comments made by Mr. Tung.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion for final approval (03:12:24).

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

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

The Commission voted unanimously for final approval (6-0).

**6. 69-24
North Broad Street ADA Improvements
N Broad Street - Various Locations**

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way
Project Details: New ADA elevator and headhouse improvements
Applicant: SEPTA
Presenter: Michael Baker International

Due to a losing quorum, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to continue the last agenda item North Broad Street ADA Improvements presentation for concept review (03:13:30).

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

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

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The Commission voted unanimously to continue this project at the next Art Commission meeting (6-0).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to adjourn (03:14:21).

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

Motion carried with no nays to adjourn the March 13, 2024, the Philadelphia Art Commission.

Alex M. Smith
Director

The next Art Commission will be held Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

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