



The Philadelphia Art
Commission
Established 1911

Robert Roesch
Chair

José Almiñana
Carmen Febo San Miguel
Matthew Kenyatta
James Lowe
Raed Nasser
Pepón Osorio
Rebecca Segall
Mario Zacharjasz

Alex M. Smith
Director

Philadelphia Art Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 - 9:30 AM

Members Present: Carmen Febo San Miguel, Matthew Kenyatta, Jose Almiñana, Raed Nasser, Pepón Osorio, Rebecca Segall, Vincent Krakaukas, and Robert Roesch

MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA ART COMMISSION

Alex Smith – Director of the Art Commission – began the meeting by welcoming back Commissioner Vincent Krakauskas who will be the designee from the Department of Public Property for the next few months while James Lowe is on a long-term assignment.

Mr. Smith thanked the Art Commission for the work that was done in 2024.

*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.*

Commission Chair Roesch called the meeting to order at the minute mark in video (00:03:30).

MEETING MINUTES

- October 9, 2024
- November 13, 2024

Commission Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve October 9, 2024, and November 13, 2024 Art Commission Meeting Minutes (00:04:21)

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Raed

Consensus of the vote was carried all in favor to approve October 9, 2024, and November 13, 2024 Art Commission Meeting Minutes, with no nays.

VOTE ON THE 2025 ART COMMISSION MEETING DATES

- 2025 Sign and Streetery Committee Public Meeting Dates – Update

Commission Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve 2025 Sign and Streetery Committee Public Meeting Dates. (00:05:28)

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Raed and seconded by Commissioner Osorio.

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Consensus of the vote was carried all in favor to approve 2025 Sign and Streetery Committee Meeting Dates, with no nays.

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REPORT OF THE SIGN & STREETERY COMMITTEE – November 27, 2024

Sign Applications

Second Reviews:

- 1. 213-24**
Cobbs Creek Golf Course
7400 Lansdowne Avenue
- 2. 302-24**
Wells Fargo
1501 Chestnut Street

First Reviews:

- 1. 321-24**
Equinox
1911 Walnut Street
- 2. 322-24**
Xfinity Live! Entertainment Plaza
1300 Pattison Avenue
- 3. 323-24**
Walnut Smoke Shop
733 Walnut Street

Seeing no questions or comments from the Public or Commission Chair, Roesch asked for a motion to approve the Sign Committee and Streetery Committee of November 27, 2024 (00:06:02).

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

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Sign Committee and Streetery Committee from November 27, 2024

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

- 1. 330-24**
Shissler Playground
1800 Blair Street
Review Type: Minor construction on City property
Project Details: Replacement of playground equipment and related furnishings
Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

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Mr. Smith presented three Administrative Items to the Commission, beginning with Shissler Playground. All Administrative Items required a consensus vote (00:06:27).

Philadelphia Parks and Recreation is seeking administrative approval for a proposed playground replacement and other site improvements at Shissler Playground located at 1800 Blair Street. The proposal will replace the existing tot and junior playground equipment and safety surface within the same footprint and add a play mound with climbing components. Additional site elements will also be enhanced including added benches, tables, and trash receptacles. Play equipment and color choices were determined by a community engagement process which included two meetings and an online survey.

The project will maintain and protect 7 trees on site, while removing one tree due to its poor condition, determined by an arborist. The tree has significant issues such as rotted spots in the trunk, severe girdling roots and is also leaning heavily.

Questions and comments from commissioners (00:08:14)

Commissioner Almiñana asked what is the size and the species of the tree that is coming down? (00:08:14) Jane Anderson from Philadelphia Parks and Recreation stated that the tree is about 10' in diameter and is a Kwanzan Cherry Tree. Commissioner Almiñana also wanted to know if the tree will be replaced with a broader canopy tree. Jane answered that another tree would be added.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the Public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve (00:12:27).

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

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.

2. 332-24

Bus Shelter Upgrades Various Locations (8)

Review Type: Encroachments located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: Eight new bus shelter installations

Applicant: Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS)

The Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS), in partnership with Intersection, has submitted a series of bus shelter upgrades as part of their on-going shelter improvement program. The Art Commission typically reviews new or replacement bus shelter locations several times a year as administrative items. Today's proposal is for eight new bus shelters at various locations around the city. These new shelters are the original size, not the narrow shelters approved earlier this fall. All the locations are proposing new shelters where currently no shelter exists. For each location, the shelter's surrounding sidewalks are being improved if

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necessary, and each is also being reviewed by the Streets Department for compliance with Complete Streets and dimensional standards. Art Commission staff have also reviewed and recommend for approval.

A representative from OTIS or Intersection is in attendance to answer any questions you may have.

- Wayne Ave & Chelton Ave FS NW
- Cottman Ave & Revere St SW
- Cottman Ave & Frankford Ave SW
- Adams Ave & Whitaker Ave NW
- Passyunk Ave & 23rd St SE
- Allegheny Av & Tulip St NE
- Allegheny Av & 17th St SW
- Stenton Ave Ogontz Ave FS NW

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Commissioners held a conversation about the size and type of shelter that is being put in place. (00:14:38) Alex Smith confirmed that the shelter is full size bus shelter with a bench and screen. He likewise confirmed any sidewalk deterioration of concrete will be replaced.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the Public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve (00:16:28).

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

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.

PRESENTATIONS FOR CONCEPT REVIEW

1. 337-24

Lardner's Point Sewer Maintenance Facility 3899 Richmond Street

Review Type: Construction project located on City property
Project Details: Construction of a series of new buildings and exterior site improvements

Applicant: Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)

Presenter: Brown & Caldwell and Kelly Maiello Architects

Christopher Patackis began the presentation at the minute mark in video (00:17:48). (00:24:21) Bob Smith from Kelly Maiello Architects continued the presentation.

(00:34:15) Chair Roesch asked about what materials are being used. Bob Smith stated that they are using insulated metal panels.

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Commissioner Almiñana expressed the need for a lighting plan and made some suggestions.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve (00:42:30).

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

Alex Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Krakaukas, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Segall, and Commission Chair Roesch.

Motion carried unanimously to approve for concept approval with recommendations (8-0).

2. 333-24

Broad, Germantown, and Erie – Percent for Art Broad Street, Germantown Avenue, and Erie Avenue

Review Type: Public Art

Project Details: Artwork in the City Right-of-Way (entitled “Afro-Sankofa / In-Flight” by Gary L. Moore)

Applicant: Creative Philadelphia

Presenter: Creative Philadelphia and Gary L. Moore

Marguerite Anglin began the presentation at the minute mark in video (00:45:10). She introduced artist Gary L. Moore and Lydia Kenselaar from OTIS to continue the presentation. (00:47:13)

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:04:45).

Commissioner Chair Roesch expressed that the project is beautiful and a well thought out project. Commissioner Almiñana and Commissioner Segall agreed.

Commissioner Almiñana asked if the bench is prefabricated? Gary I. Moore said yes. Commissioner Almiñana also asked if there was concern that people would possibly try to skateboard on the bench. Marguritte Anglin stated that the design itself is a deterrent for the use of skateboards.

Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked for renderings showing the lighting be presented. Gary L Moore stated that lighting is being worked on.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve for the final upon receipt of additional details for lighting (01:12:00).

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

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Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Krakaukas, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Segall, and Commission Chair Roesch.

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Motion carried unanimously to approve for final approval upon receipt of additional lighting details (8-0).

**3. 335-24
Agriculture Resource Center
100 N Horticulture Drive**

Review Type: Construction project on City property
Project Details: Modular structures located in West Fairmount Park
Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation
Presenter: Studio Bryan Hanes

Keena Miles from Studio Bryan Hanes began presentation at the minute mark in video (01:14:14).

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:23:30).

Commissioners Almiñana, Roesch and Kenyatta agreed that this was great project. Commissioner Kenyatta asked if any energy use or climate control is needed for the shipping containers. Kenna stated that one of the containers has an area that has A/C and heating units that will be connected to existing electrical pole.

Commissioner Almiñana asked if they could use solar panels for the project. Ash Richards stated that solar panels have been considered, however due to theft and vandalism in the parks, the department has not moved forward with the idea.

There was more conversation about options to secure the facility and size of shipping containers.

Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked if there was any water management need for the containers. Kenna Miles explained that there is PVC pipe under the shipping container to help with drainage. (01:31:52)

Commissioner Roesch asked if tools get lost during this process. Ash Richards responded, stating that they believe that there will be no issue with this due to the vetting process for participation. Membership is free and for people that are involved with public projects.

Commissioner Almiñana wanted to know if any materials in Fairmount Park would be incorporated in to source wood? Answered by Ash Richards that they are figuring out working with Cambium. (01:37:15)

Conversation continued with discussion of operating hours and how the community will utilize this space. Commissioner Segall expressed how she can see this project being used to educate the community on issues revolving around urban agriculture.

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Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve (01:44:44).

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

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Krakaukas, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Segall, and Commission Chair Roesch.

Motion carried unanimously to approve for final approval (8-0).

4. 334-24

**John F. Byrne Golf Club – Pole Barn
9550 Leon Street**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: New standalone storage facility

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Presenter: First Tee of Greater Philadelphia

Bill Hyndman CEO of First Tee of Greater Philadelphia began the presentation (01:47:24)

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:53:30).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the Public, Chair Roesch asked for a motion to approve as final (01:53:45)

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

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Krakaukas, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Segall, and Commission Chair Roesch.

Motion carried unanimously to approve for final approval (8-0).

Commission, Chair Roesch adjourn the December 11, 2024, Philadelphia Art Commission. (01:55:10).

The next Art Commission will be held January 8, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

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