



CHATTANOOGA PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

Thursday, February 27, 2025, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

City Council Building | J.B. Collins Conference Room

PRESENT: Tim Goldsmith, Chair, Angie To, Co-Chair, Ian-Alijah Bey, Jules Jackson, Nandini Makrandi, Dixon Stetler, Matthew Stovall

GUESTS: Dawn Hjelseth, Vice President of Marketing and Communications, River City Company

STAFF: Carmen Davis, Senior Director, Office of ACCE, Austin Center, Public Art Collections Specialist and Harolda Bryson, City Attorney

- I. **Call to Order:** Time 1:03 pm
 - A. Approval of January 22, 2025 Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner To, Second by Commissioner Stovall. Motion Approved.

II. **CPAC Business**

For Vote: Chair and Co-Chair:

Call for nominations for Chair. No nominations were made. Will revisit at the April meeting.

Call for nominations for Vice Chair. Commissioner Stetler self nominated. Majority approved Commissioner Stetler as Vice-Chair.

Public Art Manager - Job Posting:

Staff informed Commissioners that the office has been approved to post the Public Art Manager role. Staff will let commissioners know once HR posts so they can also share in their networks.

Visual Performing Arts Roster:

Staff informed Commissioners that a visual and performing artists rosters have been created. Local artists can sign up so we have an idea of who is in the city. It is free to sign up .

III. Projects

A. For Vote:

1. Looking For Perot (donation)
2. The Storyteller (donation)

Beverly McLarty Burrows is a local artist who is looking to donate two pieces into the Public Art Chattanooga Collection. Each piece is valued at \$300 (roughly). She would like to see “The Storyteller” in the library. We would need to go look at the pieces. Staff asked for a conditional vote on acceptance of one or two of the pieces after Austin Center can go take a look at whatever is approved in person. Commissioner Jackson offered ArtsBuild’s gallery as an additional location to showcase the artwork.

Motion made by Commissioner To for conditional approval of donation of “Looking for Perot” into the Public Art Collection..Second Commissioner Dixon. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Commissioner To for conditional approval of donation of “The Storyteller” into the Public Art Collection..Second Commissioner Stovall. Motion Carried.

B. Updates:

1. Stadium Project

Staff provided an update on a recent meeting with the landscape architecture team, 10x10 Landscape Architecture and Urbanism, who are working on the Foundries District site, particularly the areas around the Riverwalk and the future Lookouts stadium. The landscape design scope includes identifying and recommending locations for public art installations, with possibilities such as a gate or ticket booth. The design team expressed interest in incorporating reclaimed materials from the site into the artwork and shared several potential installation locations, along with the latest site designs. It is anticipated that the public art will likely take the form of a three-dimensional piece. During the meeting, examples of concepts under consideration by the landscape architects were shared.

Both the design team and members of the community have indicated a preference for community-focused artwork rather than baseball-themed pieces. The Public Art team plans to conduct a site walk soon to further explore the possibilities. Staff emphasized the importance of incorporating CALEB or some other form of community engagement into this project. Public Art Commissioners are invited to participate in the site walk and future planning. The project currently has \$94,000 in available funding, and an additional \$250,000 has been requested in the upcoming fiscal year’s budget submission.

2. Veterans Bridge - Phase 1

We sent the files to the printer yesterday with the plan to install them next week. We have a completed design for Veterans Bridge Phase 1. The designs have been sent to printer and the print company said these are excellent files and instructions. The title of the piece is “Love to Chattanooga”. The pieces will be placed on the large white barricades on Veterans Bridge. 15 barriers per section and 4 different designs. Worked with a local artist on the text panels and the marketing collateral.

3. Veterans Bridge - Phase 2

Elizabeth completed the Call for Artist before her departure. \$40,000 budget. PAC will pay for materials. I was in a meeting on Tuesday with local artists where I shared the call for informational purposes and they suggested that maybe we have a review panel for our calls allowing artists to be a second set of eyes. So I want us to consider this type of feedback moving forward with our calls when a new Manager of Public Art is hired. Also informed the commission that we have been approved for CaFe which will be used for artist calls under \$50,000 once implemented.

4. Veterans Bridge - Phase 3

We received the proposal from Mid-South Sculpture Alliance. Eligibility: This public call is open to all artists aged 18 and over. Selection Process: Applications will be juried by a team of members from Mid-South Sculpture Alliance and Public Art Chattanooga. Exhibition Details: 1 selected sculpture will be installed onsite for a period of 2 years. Selected artist will receive \$5,000 for the 2-year exhibition. Administrative Fee \$3,000 for a total of \$8,000.

5. Rivercity Company Banner Program - City Center

Turn over to Dawn. Possible ADA Compliance issue with the blade on the artwork. Explained that since this is an artistic interpretation and not a safety or directional sign it should not be an issue. Explained different options that could be suggested to the artist. Commissioners suggested shading, contrast or possibly enlarging the bulbs. These are recommendations and not something the Commission approves.

IV. Collection Management

A. Updates:

1. Scatter, Starlight Bright, Geometry Box
Waiting for the artist representative to get a letter to us for who they recommend to do the repair work which is Michael Brandt. He helped to paint the piece originally with the artist. The reason why it is the artist representative is because the artist suffers from dementia and his estate handles his affairs.
2. Starlight
Waiting to lock in contract terms with the artist.
3. Geometry Box - in contact with a local artist to get a quote to clean, sand and paint this piece.
4. *Stickball Players*
Digitizing the measurements. This should be completed by the end of week from Isaac Duncan. Then we can have a conversation on how to move forward. The issue is the way the piece was installed which allows for rust.
5. *Volumes Library Plaza*
Filling in trough, removing the small piece, cleaning the existing piece.

Remove the edge and add steps. Where the small piece is they plan on putting a checkerboard.

6. *LLM*

Issue with getting an engineer on board. Final stages of waiting for proposal to remove it. Hoping to have that done before the fiscal year ends.

7. *Social Media Posts Celebrating Black History*

Austin did several posts for DPO Social Media around some of the pieces in our collection by Black Artists.

Staff reminded Commissioners that we are in need of additional Commissioners.

V. Public Comment

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 24, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

VI. Adjourn: Time 1:42 pm