



Public Art Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2025 at 12:00 PM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

Charles Hamilton, Danny Humphress, Elizabeth Ingram, Peggy Bohl, Laura Burst

Absent

Drew Henner, Austin Reeves

Staff Present

Assistant Director of Communications Craig O'Neil, Senior Advisor of Arts & Culture Anda Ariail, Content & Graphics Specialist Meghan Robinson, Director of Communications Clarissa Howard (virtual)

1. Call to Order

Craig O'Neil called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of December 16, 2024

Motion made by Mr. Humphress to approve the minutes with two corrections in item 6b, seconded by Ms. Burst. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

3. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda)

4. Action Items

- a. Post Office Mural Repair

The Postmaster responded to the PAAB letter and the answer was confusing in regard to they thought we wanted to provide them with art. Ms. Bohl sent a second letter clarifying the plan to restore the mural. While waiting for a response, she discussed the board's restoration intentions with a few commissioners and the mayor, who reacted positively.

Although Ms. Bohl initially intended for the post office to cover the restoration cost; given the post office's reported deficit, this option may no longer be feasible. Ms. Bohl inquired whether the city could finance the project after obtaining a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and permission from the Post Office. Mr. Hamilton suggested first checking if a federal building could permit a third-party restoration and then gathering at least three bids, in addition to the one already received by Peggy Bohl for \$38,000.

After discussion, three steps were suggested: consult with the city attorney, check with the local post office to see if the mural restoration is permissible, and collaborate with a grassroots preservation effort.

Motion made by Mr. Humphress to approve Ms. Bohl's continued research on the restoration of the post office mural; seconded by Ms. Bohl. The motion carried unanimously by a 5-0 vote.

b. Seven Oaks Mural

The grand opening of Seven Oaks Park took place last weekend. Ecolab has signed a five-year lease with the building owner. The estimated cost for a mural is between \$20 and \$30 per square foot, totaling approximately \$30K.

Ms. Bohl expressed her opposition to spending money on the mural and suggested instead keeping it as green space. She noticed that a hedge of podocarpus has been planted, and it looks great. Discussion followed regarding the duration of the mural's presence on the building, the priority of the signature piece of art in the park, and concerns about presenting another mural idea to the city commission. It was suggested that the building owner could consider adding a mural to their property.

Motion made by Ms. Bohl not to pursue the mural and to concentrate efforts on securing a quality artist to create an appropriate piece in Seven Oaks Park; seconded by Ms. Ingram. The motion carried unanimously by a 5-0 vote.

c. Maintenance of Public Art

Mr. O'Neil informed the board that the White A sculpture has been restored and can be seen while entering the scenic boat tour. The Emily fountain was restored inside and out with new patina and is ready for arts weekend where a docent will explain Emily's significance to the City of Winter Park.

The estimated annual maintenance cost for the Emily sculpture is \$1,000, depending on various factors. For the "White A" sculpture, maintenance will cost \$495 per year, which includes quarterly cleaning. Mr. O'Neil explained that with the dedicated funding source, the Public Art Advisory Board (PAAB) will take a more active role in the maintenance and upkeep of installed art pieces, transitioning this responsibility from the Parks and Recreation Department. He also mentioned that he will compile the maintenance costs for all art pieces.

Motion made by Ms. Ingram to approve maintenance for public art; seconded by Ms. Burst. There was a brief discussion about presenting the costs to the board. The motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

5. Non-Action Items

6. Staff Updates

a. Arts Weekend Update

It was noted that PAAB will have a booth featuring a game, with the micro puzzles as prizes. Ms. Ariail provided an update on the arts weekend, detailing the events scheduled for the four days and outlining the board's responsibilities. Ms. Bohl praised Ms. Ariail for her efforts. Ms. Ariail also stated that all 22 Arts Alliance organizations will be participating.

b. Emily Fountain Restoration

The Emily Fountain restoration was covered earlier under maintenance.

c. Installation of Seven John Costin Prints

Mr. O'Neil praised Austin Reeves' recommendation of the professional who installed the seven John Costin prints at the event center, which cost \$245. The photographer Phil Eschbach will take photos of the prints at a cost of approximately \$100 to \$200. The prints will be added to the online public art collection.

7. Board Comments

Ms. Ingram expressed her shock and disappointment with the art installation in front of City Hall. She was particularly upset because it did not resemble the mock-up that had been presented to the board.

Staff decided to keep the temporary installation in place since the public seemed to enjoy it and had no prior expectations of what was meant to be there. Ms. Ariail made two key points: first, that one alliance member supported another, and second, that future efforts should prioritize achieving the end goal rather than focusing solely on collaborating with alliance members.

A question was raised about whether there had been prior awareness of the changes. The response was that the information was communicated at the last minute. The discussion then turned to payment for Open Scene, which totaled \$6,000, of which \$4,500 has already been paid.

8. Upcoming Agenda Items

Ms. Ariail further explained that Open Scene had created 50 squares of poetry intended to connect the city hall piece to the dome, which they wanted to install on Park Avenue. However, they were unable to find a suitable method for the installation and had not received prior approval to do so. Additionally, this installation needed to be coordinated with the Parks and Recreation Department. Staff advised Open Scene that it could not be done.

The board members suggested having a discussion with Open Scene regarding their temporary installation and their final payment.

The Bloomberg Connects app was discussed and explained that it would enhance the public art collection website by improving ease of use on mobile devices. Mr. Hamilton will be included in the next Bloomberg Connects meeting, along with Ms. Howard and

Mr. O'Neil. Mr. Humphress was invited to attend the upcoming Bloomberg Connects meeting in either Mr. O'Neil's or Ms. Howard's office to avoid infringing Sunshine Law.

The next agenda will include discussions of the Open Scene payment and installation, the signature art piece for Seven Oaks Park, the Orange County rotation art, and further exploration of the Bloomberg Connects app.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

Approved by the board on March 17, 2025
/s/ Bahiyyah Layton, Board Coordinator