



Public Art Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2025 at 12:00 PM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

Charles Hamilton, Danny Humphress (Virtual), Elizabeth Ingram, Peggy Bohl, Austin Reeves, Carolyn Fennell, Laura Burst

Staff Present

Assistant Director of Communications Craig O'Neil, Sr. Advisor Arts & Culture Anda Ariail, Graphics Specialist Meghan Robinson, Events & Marketing Coordinator Stephanie Silva

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:02pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes of July 21, 2025

**Motion made by Ms. Bohl to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Burst.
Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.**

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

4. Action Items

- a. Bloomberg Connects

Mr. Hamilton presented Bloomberg Connects as a marketing application intended for the city's art collection, aiming to enhance and expand the city's esteemed initiatives.

Motion made by Mr. Hamilton to implement Bloomberg Connects; seconded by Mr. Humphress.

Discussion: Ms. Bohl expressed interest in seeing the current webpage's click count. She noted that Bloomberg Connects was designed for museums, institutions, and large cities like New York and Chicago, aiming to facilitate trade. Ms. Bohl raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest and exploitation for private gain. Mr. O'Neil responded to Ms. Ingram, stating that staff are committed to promoting the public art collection. He also told Ms. Bohl that staff will provide webpage stats since the page is almost a year old. Additionally, Mr. O'Neil mentioned that Bloomberg Connects would be able to be worked on by city staff beginning in February 2026, after the contract is reviewed/approved by the city attorney.

Ms. Fennell pointed out that the city incurs no costs beyond the time commitment of two board members and city staff.

The motion passed with a 6-1 vote. Ms. Bohl voted no.

b. Scope for Permanent Sculpture(s) in Seven Oaks Park

Mr. O'Neil requested the board to provide a scope for the Seven Oaks Park permanent feature, enabling it to be presented to procurement for incorporation into the Request for Quotation (RFQ).

- Mr. Hamilton presented a PowerPoint presentation of his recommendation of the scope. He displayed examples of public art in various cities and suggested child-friendly, interactive, quirky, public art abstracts, non-traditional. He recommended having a work session to discuss permanency, how many pieces, using the same or more than one artist, going to the armory show for ideas or well-known repositories of art, and considering miniature sculptures to select pieces of art. Things to consider: genres, non-traditional or abstract, visionary and interactive.
- Ms. Bohl expressed a preference for a maquette and shared her enthusiasm for Phil Anderson's vision for the Winter Park brand.
- Mr. O'Neil suggested that the piece is enjoyable for most people, not offensive or a political statement, and ties into the charm of the Winter Park brand.
- Mr. Humphress emphasized the importance of the art being iconic, historical, and paying tribute to the city's rich natural heritage. He also mentioned that it should be whimsical, impressive, and timeless.
- Ms. Ingram suggested a colorful, eye-catching piece that is contemporary. She also mentioned the possibility of an already-made made piece that could help with costs. An example of an interactive piece is the Jaxoscope in Jacksonville or a large abstract oak tree. Additionally, she recommended issuing an RFQ to see what artists come up with and focusing on one piece at a time.
- Ms. Burst proposed an abstract, colorful peacock that can be enjoyed by people of all ages, especially children, and is easy to maintain. She also suggested that it should be thought-provoking.
- Ms. Bohl proposed finding the brand and having Phil Anderson share his vision. She recommended a fixed, bronze or steel piece that is classic, long-lasting, and created by a local artist. The piece should have a theme, be interactive, appeal to children, and be non-controversial. Her top priorities were items that reflect the brand, are colorful, and relate to Winter Park.
- Mr. Reeves emphasized the importance of the material and medium being interactive, but also thoughtfully used, not just something to be sat on. He suggested focusing on one piece at a time.

- Mr. Humphress stated that the art should not be limited. He also proposed scheduling the permanent installation for the spring or summer..
- Mr. O'Neil will compile a list of items based upon board member input. Mr. Reeves recommended sending out the RFQ call before the end of the year. Ms. Ingram proposed having the RFQ ready for the next meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Bohl to proceed with the RFQ, expend between \$100K and \$175K and begin immediately after Mr. O'Neil has listed the priorities; seconded by Ms. Burst. The motion carried unanimously by a 7-0 vote.

5. Non-Action Items

6. Staff Updates

a. Mobility Hub EV Charging Stations

Mr. O'Neil mentioned that using artwork to hide the mobility hub would create a conflict with the heat generated by the chargers. Instead, the Parks Department will let the hedges grow taller to provide some camouflage.

b. Seven Oaks Park Rotating Sculpture Project Approved

On July 23rd, the City Commission approved the three rotating sculptures in Seven Oaks Park. Ms. Ariail is working with procurement to have this in place by January 15, 2026.

7. Board Comments

Mr. O'Neil addressed the board regarding the approval of the \$5K funding allocated for artwork commemorating the Celebration of America 250. The designated art piece is planned to be installed at the Blue Bamboo Jazz Garden, situated on the brick pedestal. Procurement is currently reviewing a summary that solicits input from the city's Arts & Culture Alliance members, including Crealde School of Art, and Rollins Museum of Art. Final approval would be provided by Chris and Melody Cortez, and the PAAB. Ms. Ariail expressed that the installation of this piece should occur during Arts Weekend to position it as a keynote event. Mr. Hamilton expressed concerns about the potential political implications of celebrating the 250th anniversary of America and his discomfort with this aspect of the PAAB providing a piece of art. Ms. Fennell and Mr. O'Neil acknowledged the political discussion and his concerns.

8. Upcoming Agenda Items

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Approved by the board with correction on October 20, 2025

/s/ Bahiyyah Layton, Board Coordinator