



# Public Art Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

**September 15, 2025 at 12:00 PM**

City Hall Commission Chambers  
401 S. Park Avenue

## **Present**

Charles Hamilton, Danny Humphress, Elizabeth Ingram, Peggy Bohl, Austin Reeves, Carolyn Fennell

## **Absent**

Laura Burst

## **Staff Present**

Assistant Director of Communications Craig O'Neil, Sr. Advisor Arts & Culture Anda Ariail, Events & Marketing Coordinator Stephanie Silva, Procurement Contracts Agent Rebecca Watt

## **1. Call to Order**

Call to order at 12:01 p.m.

## **2. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda): Three minutes allowed for each speaker**

Gigi Papa commented on the video recording of the last meeting, stating that she believed a board member showed disdain for our country and voted against the artwork for the America 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. She recommended removing that board member and having the city commission respond. Ms. Papa emphasized that the board should never promote personal political agendas during meetings.

## **3. Action Items**

### **a. Seven Oaks Park Sculpture Installation RFQ Details and Scope**

Mr. O'Neil stated that staff members visited Seven Oaks Park to assess the three locations for the Art on the Green project. PAAB shall proceed with finalizing the scope for the Request for Quotations (RFQ) in collaboration with the procurement department.

Ms. Bohl proposed including a bronze statue option in the RFQ due to its durability and weather resistance. She emphasized that bronze should be part of the RFQ and not overlooked, as it expands options. It was clarified that while the board didn't specifically suggest a statue, using bronze as a medium is acceptable.

The list of suggested scope is as follows:

- commissioned or existing art piece,

- visionary
- may portray the city's brand of A. inclusive, B. charming, C. parks and lakes, D. city of Arts & Culture

Ms. Bohl commented that the art piece should reflect the time, thinking, and love, and should be traditional or abstract. Mr. Reeves stated that it is the artist's responsibility to develop a concept and recommended item E to promote dialogue. The board discussed this and continued listing other points.

- not political or offensive
- colorful
- interactive
- whimsical
- timeless
- should appeal to all ages
- must be easy to maintain and withstand Florida weather
- must have potential to become a landmark art piece
- Submit a maquette or a digital rendering

Up to five finalists will receive \$1,000 each. A total of \$175,000 is allocated for the selected artist fee, which includes but is not limited to installation, insurance, supplies, artwork, and any other requirements, excluding travel funds.

Austin Reeves had to leave at 12:52 pm

Procurement Contracts Agent Rebecca Watt outlined the process for establishing the selection committee after the RFQ is issued. She noted that this process follows Florida Statutes, and once an odd number of members are chosen, they must adhere to a code of silence, meaning they cannot discuss the proposals unless there is a publicly noticed meeting.

A discussion about the appropriate number of board members to be on the selection committee was suggested, with a proposed total of three. Additionally, two staff members would be included to make a total of five members. These members are permitted to communicate with procurement. The first phase, involving portfolio reviews, will be conducted in publicly noticed meetings of the selection committee. In the second phase, the artists' oral presentations are exempt from public records. The third phase involves reconvening the selection committee to recommend the finalist.

The final draft of the RFQ/RFP will be presented at the next PAAB meeting, after which procurement will establish the selection committee. The board members consented to appoint three members to serve on this committee. Ms. Watt provided additional clarification regarding the procedure for submitting proposals via an OpenGov link. Ms. Fennell summarized that in the upcoming meeting, the board will evaluate the selection process and determine whether any additions are necessary for the RFQ.

**Motion made by Mr. Humphress to approve the items that have been listed by the board for forwarding the Seven Oaks Signature Art Project; seconded by Mr. Hamilton. The motion carried unanimously by a 5-0 vote.**

Gigi Papa stated that the Public Art dedicated fund is derived from taxpayer general funds, including the \$600K, and residents are not involved in the decision-making process.

**4. Non-Action Items**

**5. Staff Updates**

- a. Art by Gillie and Marc

Mr. O'Neil shared photographs of 'Arf' by Gillie and Marc, renowned for their public art seating installations. Ms. Bohl remarked that the benches are interactive and expressed her hope that the selected artist is local.

- b. America 250 Call to Artists

Mr. O'Neil informed the board that the call to artists for the America 250 artwork, which was approved for \$5,000, received no responses by the required early deadline.

**6. Board Comments**

**7. Upcoming Agenda Items**

Mr. O'Neil mentioned that a Commissioner informed him about a letter from the Orwin Manor Home District Homeowners Association, requesting funding from PAAB to install two gateway signs. The bid for the project is \$146,000. Ms. Fennell recommended guidelines for funding such projects, while Mr. Hamilton expressed the view that it may not fall within PAAB's scope. The board decided unanimously that this is not something to be funded by the dedicated funding source and would not recommend bringing this back for discussion.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Approved by the board on October 20, 2025  
/s/ Bahiyyah Layton, Board Coordinator