



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved MADISON ARTS COMMISSION

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

5:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 11 - Sheri Carter; Annik N. Dupaty; Fabu P. Carter; Lance M. Owens; Rae C. Senarighi; Katie H. Ryan; Anna T. January; Nicholas A. Pjevach; Prenicia E. Clifton; Bethany M. Jurewicz and Mitchell F. Branscombe

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Jurewicz, seconded by Senarighi, to Approve the June 8 and June 17, 2022 Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

Mitchell Branscombe disclosed that he is the project architect for the parking structure in item 7, Village on Park Parking Ramp. Annik Dupaty recused herself from item 2, Metro Transit Percent for Art Project.

1. [16466](#) Introduce New Madison Arts Commission Member

MAC welcomed new members Mitchell Branscombe, Prenicia Clifton, and Annik Dupaty.

Item 8 was taken out of order

8. [27011](#) Art in Public Places

Katie Ryan reported that the Public Art Committee discussed AIPP funding. The Public Art Committee recommended that staff develop proposals for in-progress projects that have previously been discussed by MAC and present the proposals for funding to the Public Art Committee. The Public Art Committee also recommended that MAC approve up to \$15,000 for public art at the new Olin Park facility. She reported that discussion of the ballot boxes was referred to the October meeting.

A motion was made by Jurewicz, seconded by Branscombe, to Approve the recommendations of the Public Art Committee to have staff develop and present proposals for Art in Public Places projects and to approve up to \$15,000 for public art at the new Olin Park facility. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Item 7 was taken out of order7. [71809](#) Village on Park Parking Ramp

Katie Ryan reported that the Public Art Committee recommended that staff release an RFQ for an artist to paint the interior stairwell mural.

A motion was made by Jurewicz, seconded by Clifton, to Approve the recommendation of the Public Art Committee to have staff issue an RFQ for the interior stairwell mural at the Village on Park parking ramp. The motion passed by voice vote/other. Dupaty was not present for this item.

2. [65288](#) Metro Transit Percent for Art Project

Annik Dupaty recused herself from item 2 and left the meeting for the duration of this item.

Meri Rose Ekberg explained that this project is funded through the Percent for Art Ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance is to center art and creativity in City building and expand the public art collection by allocating funds from eligible public works projects to incorporate art into the site design. As part of the remodel of the Metro Transit Maintenance Facility on E Washington Avenue, 1% of City funds in the project budget were allocated specifically for public art for this facility.

The Madison Arts Commission determined that this would be an international Request for Qualifications. This decision follows best practices in arts administration, which recognize that limiting calls for artists to local applicants benefits the most affluent areas that have more calls for artists. If regions with the most calls limit them to local artists only, artists living in areas like ours, with low levels of arts funding, are restricted and put at a disadvantage. Artists with local residency are provided with a 5pt or 5% bonus to their scores, but beyond this, commissioners should not bias their scores based on the applicant's residency.

Ekberg explained that tonight, commissioners will review the proposal presentations and have a chance to ask questions of the artists. In early October, MAC will be provided with community and staff feedback on the proposals and then submit their initial scores. At the October 12 MAC meeting, commissioners will discuss the proposals, submit final scores, and make a recommendation to the Common Council.

Brian Pittelli, City Finance, spoke about the scoring process.

Finalists Vito DiBari and Mirko Carnovali presented their proposal.

Finalist Deborah Aschheim presented their proposal.

Finalist Jenie Gao presented their proposal.

Finalists Gail Simpson and Aris Georgiades of Actual Size Artworks presented their proposal.

3. [61239](#) Public Comment

Benji Ramirez Gomez, Nipinet Landsem, Catherine Harris, Angelica Contreras, Katherine Johnson, and Kailea Saplan spoke in support of Jenie Gao's proposal.

Additional members of the public were registered for this item but did not wish to speak. Please see the public comment registrant list attached to Legistar file #61239.

Annik Dupaty returned to the meeting prior to item 9, which was taken out of order.

9. [55290](#) Thurber Park Artist-in-Residence

Commissioners discussed whether the artist-in-residence contract should be one or two years long. Ryan said that a longer term would allow more time for community engagement. Senarighi said they liked the option of two years, but not requiring everyone to do two years in the future. F. Carter said the current artist in residence came in with the understanding that it was a one-year contract, so they should wait to offer a one- or two-year term to the next artist in residence. Clifton said that a longer contract limits access to having new artists come in each year, and she thought that the community engagement could fit into one year. Dupaty agreed with Carter and Clifton that it should remain a one-year term. Pjevach asked about the length of other artist-in-residence programs. Wolf said this residency is unique in that they create a permanent public art piece, so staff needs to match the artists' strengths with the City's public art needs and give the artist enough time to build a project. Jurewicz suggested including language in the one-year contract that would give MAC the option of adding a 2nd year in order to allow themselves some flexibility, and Dupaty agreed.

A motion was made by Jurewicz, seconded by S. Carter, to Approve the Thurber Park artist-in-residence contract for one year with the possibility of extending for up to one additional year by agreement between both parties. The motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Sheri Carter; Annik N. Dupaty; Lance M. Owens; Rae C. Senarighi; Katie H. Ryan; Nicholas A. Pjevach; Bethany M. Jurewicz and Mitchell F. Branscombe

Noes: 2 - Fabu P. Carter and Prenicia E. Clifton

Non Voting: 1 - Anna T. January

Item 6 was taken out of order

6. [23110](#) Endorsing Community Projects

Commissioners reviewed the proposals for the Covid mural at 1236 Williamson Street and Head Start playground mural.

A motion was made by S. Carter, seconded by Jurewicz, to endorse the two DAMA murals at 1236 Williamson and Head Start. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Item 10 was taken out of order

10. [39932](#) Public Art Conservation

Due to time constraints, the commission did not discuss this item. Staff will provide additional information at a future meeting.

Item 11 was taken out of order

11. [21279](#) MAC Administrative Reports
- Fabu Carter provided an update on the Black Women Artists Speak panel. The panel is comprised of artists representing different genres and stages of their careers with a goal of looking at the status of and giving voice to the Black Woman Artist in Madison. Black Women Speak will be held on September 20 at the Madison College Goodman South Campus, and all are invited to join.
4. [32522](#) Review Overture Contract
- Representing the Overture Center were Ed Holmes, Chief Equity and Innovation Officer and Chris Vogel, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Business Officer. Holmes presented on Overture's mission and vision, the effects of Covid and subsequent reopening, and their continued commitment to justice and equity. January asked about the outstanding financial reporting. Vogel said they had a change in audit firms this year, along with an additional audit for their grant funding, so they were unable to meet the September 30 deadline. They requested an extension and said that they plan to have the financial reporting done by October 31.
- Commissioners asked questions about the DEI training held at Overture, representation in resident companies, and restarting the school programs.
- City Attorney Michael Haas provided an overview of the major terms of the agreement and changes that Overture has proposed. Examples of proposed changes include increasing the annual funding amount, removing broad language about the type of recommendations the Civilian Oversight Committee can provide, and streamlining reporting requirements. He said the City hopes to come to an agreement with Overture on those changes and have a joint proposal for MAC and the Common Council to review in October.
5. [22394](#) Madison Arts Commission Standing Committee Assignments
- Due to time constraints, the commission did not discuss this item.
12. [69092](#) 2022 Press and Publicity
- See attached.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Clifton, seconded by Ryan, to Adjourn at 9:39 pm. The motion passed by voice vote/other.