



CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING OFFICIAL MINUTES JANUARY 24, 2023

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 2 PARK PLAZA | 6:00 PM

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I. CALL TO ORDER

- ❖ Chairwoman Smeal called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

- Cultural Arts Commission Members Present
 - Chairwoman Dianna Smeal
 - Vice Chair Gene Andrews
 - Commissioner Melody Cookson
 - Commissioner Shital Foster
 - Commissioner Sumita Patel
 - Commissioner Michael Barsky
 - Commissioner Sabine Genet
- Cultural Arts Commission Members Absent
 - Alternate Commissioner Francesca Connolly
 - Alternate Commissioner Alicia Burr
- Staff
 - Morgan Rodgers, Director of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Services
 - Kim Zane Manning, Cultural Services Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Amber O'Dwyer, Administrative Office Coordinator, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- a. Cultural Arts Commission Meeting Minutes from November 29, 2022

- ❖ Chairwoman Smeal called for a motion to approve the minutes.
 - Commissioner Genet offered a motion to approve the minutes from the 11.29.22 meeting.
 - Commissioner Cookson seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (7-0).

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. Empire Communities – Pinecone Public Art Application

- Peter Ewing, Empire Communities came forward to present the item.
- In homage to the name of the community, the developer choice to move forward with a pinecone enrichment features accompanying a wall.
- Solution to safety of the pinecones that the CAC Commission has would be:
 - Increasing the gauge of the metal.
 - Rounding the edges of the pinecones.
 - A safety sign requesting no one climb on the pinecones.
- ❖ Chairwoman Smeal called for a motion to approve the minutes.
 - Commissioner Barsky approve the Eco District signage and enrichment design submitted by Empire Communities to be installed at the Pinecone Community development with the inclusion of the minor modifications as recommended by the Public Art Committee and the Cultural Arts Commission.
 - Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (7-0).

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Election of a Chair and Vice-Chair

- a. Chairwoman Smeal wished to note the efforts of Melody Cookson and Michael Barsky over the last year in regards to the Performance Permits.
 - ❖ Commissioner Cookson was elected as Chairman for 2023.
 - ❖ Commissioner Barsky was elected as Vice Chairman for 2023.
 - ❖ The motions were approved unanimously (7-0).

b. TPA Group – Lakeview Park “Cube” Public Art Sculpture Application Approval

- Bennett Snyder with TPA Group came forward to present the item.
- Kim Manning also came to give a brief summary of the applicants two submittals.
- 6 art installations are planned for Lakeview Park.
- Installs include entry walls, industrial style sculptures, the fox/deer, and the green wall for the greenspace.
- The site is getting to the place where it is safe to install the art.

- The current sculpture has been reconsidered to be placed at the corner of Haynes Bridge Road at the development.
- The sculpture is very similar to the round-a-bout sculpture.
- The cube would sit encircled by a limestone seat wall.
- There is an existing sidewalk and the developer will be adding an additional sidewalk.
- The cube changes shape as you walk or drive by the sculpture.
- The cube is to resemble steel high beams as you see at Avalon.
- The sculpture would also be lit at night and incorporate an LED light changing feature to change color for the holidays.
- The seat wall is 2 feet tall, and the sculpture itself is 20 feet tall, 20 feet wide.
- The cube is to be mounted to appear as “floating” above the seat wall.
- The cube finish is similar to other sculptures already approved – a powder coated paint.

Q. Commissioner Genet inquired about the concern of people wanting to climb on the structure.

A. Snyder stated the same question was posed for Alphaloop sculptures. Aside from a sign requesting people not climb on the structure, there isn't a deterrent.

Q. Commissioner Foster asked if railing could be installed to serve as a deterrent.

A. Snyder stated this could be considered.

Q. Commissioner Genet asked if the developer could scrutinize the sculpture and identify solutions to avoid injury.

Q. Commissioner Foster asked if there was damage due to someone climbing the feature if the developer would be responsible for repair.

A. Snyder – Yes.

- ❖ Commissioner Foster offered a motion to approve the cube public art structure design submitted by the TPA Group to be installed at 2101 Lakeview Parkway along the corner of Haynes Bridge Road as recommended by the Public Art Committee.

- Commissioner Cookson seconded the motion.

- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (7-0).

c. TPA Group – Lakeview Park Mural Artist Application Approval

- Bennett Snyder with TPA Group came forward to present the item.
- On the site plan, #5 is a central green space that will be surrounded by residential and retail to house performances.
- At the space is a concrete wall that creates a great space for a mural.
- Developer considered a few options for how to realize a mural.
- Settled on Thomas Turner for a mural artist. Liked him because the area has many industrial features and the artist brings in color, is nature-focused, and brings a different element to the space.

- Artist did the Hawk at Atlanta Station.
- Developer has met with the artist to begin conceptualizing a mural design.
- The mural would long and linear.
- Once artist and design concept is approved, the mural would come back before the CAC for approval.

Q. Commissioner Patel is the space level with the roadway or elevated.

A. Synder stated the green is actually raised and the concrete is what elevates the space and focuses internal to the development. The wall would also have uplighting to enhance the mural.

Chairwoman Smeal stated the art has a 3D effect that pulls you in.

Q. Commissioner Cookson asked if, once the design is confirmed, a maintenance plan would be included.

A. Synder – yes, a maintenance plan would be incorporated and brought back to the CAC for review.

Q. Commissioner Barsky – Continuous lighting – what does this mean?

A. Snyder – it encompasses the entire wall.

Manning: The site is also located in the Eco-District, hence the nature theme. The mural would be installed before residents settle.

Q. Commissioner Genet asked if there was any thought to rotational murals.

A. Synder – considered a vinyl wrap to be switched out but opted to do hand painting for a better effect. Life span of 5 years.

Q. Commissioner Foster asked if the artist was contracted for a cost.

A. Synder – Yes.

❖ Commissioner Patel offered a motion to approve the artist submitted by the TPA Group for the mural to be installed at the 2101 Lakeview Parkway central green as recommended by the Public Art Committee.

○ Commissioner Genet seconded the motion.

❖ The motion was approved unanimously (7-0).

VII. STAFF PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

a. DIVISION

Cultural Arts Division Monthly Report – January 2023

- Kim Zane Manning, Cultural Services Manager of the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Mid-Year Initiatives:

- In 2018 the Department had a master plan that was finalized but Cul Services plan was in it's infancy.

- In 2020 a plan was crafted but the pandemic prevented the ability to move forward.
 - Currently, there is a proposal from the same consultant who completed the RPCS Master Plan. Hope to receive funding in mid-year request to proceed with consultant.
- Stories Project – Proposing Bailey Johnson Community Documentary.
 - Similar to Farmhouse documentary.
 - Can send CAC the teaser for the upcoming documentary.
- Baby Grand Piano
 - Time to replace.
 - Sadly, a lady passed away and the family would like to donate her baby grand piano. The piano passed quality assessment.
 - Current baby grand piano will be converted to an art sculpture by a local artist to be placed within the Arts Center.
 - Commissioner Genet stated she was thrilled the art was thriving.
 - Commissioner Foster stated she really enjoyed the artist selected and mentioned how excited he was to be creating the art.
- Manning passed out the Spring 2023 Guide for Arts & Culture.
 - A new approach to adaptive art will be piloted – Art Pal.
 - Special Needs student can take any art class with the help of a trained Art Pal (training facilitated through Lionheart).
- New show “Down Home on the Farm”
 - Borrowing historical farm equipment from the historical society to be mingled with the paintings displayed for the exhibit.
- Meet Vera Stark will be at the black box theater by ACT 1.
- In celebration of Black History Month, the division is doing a 3-tiered event called “Harlem Renaissance”.
 - Unveiling of the repurposed grand piano art sculpture.
 - Gallery exhibit
 - Interpretive story time to talk about African American Community intertwining music, poetry, etc.
- Symphonic Tapas
- Love, Sex & the IRS – City Center Players having a show for two weekends at the Arts Center.

b. DIRECTOR

2022 Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department Year in Review

- Morgan Rodgers, Director of the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- Morgan took a moment to brag on Kim Manning and how our staff is remarkable in meeting the needs of special demographics, such as the special needs community, and major developments coming before the CAC for approval of art-related sculptures.
- Tonight, Rodgers wished to provide top highlights of 2022. These were submittals from the division managers who each submitted the top 5 highlights of 2022. More than 22% are arts and culture that rose to the top as worthy of mentioning.
- Wills Park Maintenance Facility
 - i. Park Services staff has been working out of the equestrian barn and now finally have a proper space.
- Outdoor Studio Movie Grill Mural
- Wayfinding signage was installed in several parks to help guide park visitors to important access points, amenities, etc. This includes along the Greenway.
- Bocci Ball Courts installed as a boy scout project that ended up being hugely successful.
- UHP used as an event facility by several groups. This brings relevance to an underutilized facility. 2023 is looking great for the space as HBD will be doing additional concerts at the space.
- PW is helping complete a stream bank restoration project with the aid of funding from Rotary.
- A new basketball court was installed at ACC. This is essential because moisture from the court was preventing basketballs from bouncing properly.
- Medley, the newest round of outdoor art was installed.
- The art crosswalk at the Art's Center is really cool and hope in 2023 to do more.
- Equestrian Arena 1 was officially opened. Absolutely flat and will not puddle. Made room to develop by tearing down the old maintenance barn (hence above).
- New audio equipment was installed at the equestrian center.
- AlphaLoop groundbreaking was held for sections of OMP, under Westside, to Northwinds. Will include a sky bridge that will be 40 feet above the ground.
- Registration at all day / half day camps were up over 20%.
- Daily pool admissions were also up!
- 130 monthly free health and wellness classes due to a grant from Northside Hospital.
- 92% of all cul camps were held; 79% of classes were held. Did not have to be cancel due to lack of registration.
- Many Art Center facility rentals and exhibits were held to bring awareness to the center and to promote classes and programs offered at the center.
- Painted restrooms at various parks. Makes the parks feel clean.
- Removed several dangerous or dead trees on park land.
- Entrance signs were installed at two centers.
- North Park field 2 turf was installed.

- ACC roof was repaired.
- Park Memorial program was piloted and proved successful.
- Webb Bridge tennis courts were converted to pickleball courts.
- Com Ag Plan was approved by Council.
- Music Match Shows and Exhibits.

Q. Commissioner Foster asked for a copy of the report.

A. Rodgers stated certainly will first thing in the morning.

Q. Commissioner Genet asked if the maintenance barn was a blank canvas for potential artwork.

A. Rodgers stated it was intended to blend in and not be “seen” by the public. Not the best place for a mural.

Q. Barsky asked if a workshop could be added to the list of meetings to discuss 2023 initiatives.

VIII. CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

- There were no commissioner reports.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Thomas Norfolk, Park Glen subdivision resident of Alpharetta came forward. Mentioned he was part of the ArtsAlpharetta. Asked for large fans to be installed at UHP.
- Rodgers responded that Bond funds have been set aside for the UHP upgrades to include two big fans and electrical upgrades. He mentioned that Mr. Norfolk would also notice restrooms are being upgraded. Timeline of UHP improvements are actively being worked on. Already started renovations to the restrooms and concessions green room. Currently have to seek approval from City Council for the electrical upgrades. Should be completed come May.
- Park design is currently in process with Dix-Hite. Renditions are being made and once staff has approved the design, staff will go before Council for approval.

Q. Genet – An opportunity for public input and when?

A. Rodgers – Yes, in April. Online and via social media. No in-person public meetings.

- Vice Chairman Andrews mentioned Fulton County Day at the Capitol on February 16, at 2pm.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- ❖ Chairwoman Smeal asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- ❖ Commissioner Foster offered a motion to adjourn.
- ❖ Commissioner Cookson seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (7-0).
- ❖ With there being no further business to consider or discuss, Chairwoman Smeal adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amber O'Dwyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amber" written in a smaller, more compact script, and the last name "O'Dwyer" written in a larger, more expansive script.

Amber O'Dwyer

Administrative Office Coordinator

Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services