



Minutes

Metro Arts Board of Commissioners
April 18, 2024, 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Lentz Health Department
2500 Charlotte Ave
Centennial Rooms A and B
Nashville, TN 37209

Commissioners: Leah Dupree Love (Chair), Heather Lefkowitz (Secretary), Tré Hardin, Timothy Jester, Dawana Wade, Beverly Watts, Campbell West,

Absent Commissioners: Janet Kurtz (Vice Chair), Darek Bell, Carol McCoy, John Nefflen, & Arlene Nicholas-Phillips

METRO ARTS MISSION:

Drive an Equitable and Vibrant Community through the Arts

A. Call to Order

- a. Commissioner Chair Dupree Love called meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

B. Public Comment

1. Councilwoman Joy Styles
2. Councilman
3. Alan Fey
4. Drew Ogle
5. Lydia Yousef
6. Christine Hall
7. Ashley Bachelder
8. Nichole Williams
9. Daniel Jones

C. Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve February 15, 2024, minutes by Commissioner Watts and second Commissioner Lefkowitz.

A motion to approve March 28, 2024, minutes by Commissioner Hardin and seconded by Commissioner Jester.

D. Artist Spotlight:

Nichole Robinson infused the Commission meeting with her distinctive and joyful storytelling, sharing her experiences of working with elementary schools in Nashville.

E. Public Art Committee (Commissioner West)

Commissioner West opened with updates about Commissioner Watts and Commission Nicholas - Phillips joining the Public Art Committee. She then passed it on to Public Arts Manager Jessica Ingram.

1. Old Hickory Community Center Design Concept (ACTION ITEM)
 - a. Jessica presented the Old Hickory Community Center design concept, specifically the budget increase for the "Wings of Time" artwork by Gordon Huether. Approved in February, the design features laser-cut acrylic herons with dichroic film suspended in the atrium to create a magical effect with natural light. The herons symbolize self-determination, progress, and community inclusiveness, enhancing the center's appeal, particularly for children. The project highlights the area's rich history and natural beauty.

A motion for approval of Gordon Heather's artwork for Design for Wings of Time at the Old Hickory Community Center by Commissioner West and seconded by Commissioner Watts.

2. Bordeaux Gateway project artist budget (ACTION ITEM)

The past administration's participatory budget funded this project with an initial artist budget of \$185,000, which was anticipated to be insufficient. Discussions with the PAC and the Mayor's office emphasized the need for flexibility due to infrastructure challenges. Four semifinalists— Omari Booker and Stephen Hutchins (artist team), Shabazz Larkin, Prado Studio, and James Threalkill—were selected. The design process will undergo TDOT review and community feedback. The project's complex site, featuring elevation, drainage, and roadway issues, necessitates careful collaboration and additional resources to overcome logistical challenges.

A motion was made to approve an increase of the Bordeaux Gateway Project artist budget from \$185,000 to \$300,000 by Commissioner West and Seconded by Commissioner Watts.

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