



**REGULAR MEETING  
FORT WORTH ART COMMISSION  
Monday, September 19, 2022, 5:00 p.m.**

***In-Person Only***

Fort Worth Community Arts Center  
1300 Gendy Street  
Fort Worth, TX, 76107

**PRESENT**

Commissioner Jennifer G. Brooks, Ph.D.  
Commissioner Randle Harwood  
Commissioner Estrus Tucker

Commissioner Branigan Contreras  
Commissioner Arturo Martinez  
Commissioner James Talambas

**ABSENT**

Commissioner Maggie Adler

Commissioner Raul Pena

**CITY STAFF**

Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager  
Richard Zavala, Interim Director, Planning & Data Analytics  
Eric Fladager, Assistant Director, Planning & Data Analytics  
Jessika Williams, Assistant City Attorney

**ARTS FORT WORTH STAFF**

Wesley Gentle, Interim Managing Director/President  
Martha Peters, Director of Public Art  
Anne Allen, Public Art Project Manager  
Michelle Gonzales, Public Art Project Manager  
Alida Labbe, Public Art Project Manager  
Michelle Richardson, Public Art Project Manager  
Jenny Conn, Public Art Collection Manager  
Michael Asbill, Community Engagement Manager  
Natalie Lopez, Executive Assistant

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***MINUTES***

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Tucker called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
- II. Approval of Minutes – Chairman Tucker
  - a. Regular Meeting of August 15, 2022

**A motion was made by Commissioner Brooks and seconded by Commissioner Harwood to approve the Art Commission minutes of August 15, 2022. The motion passed (5-0-0).**

**[Note: Commissioner Contreras joined the meeting at 5:28 p.m.]**

- III. Report of Chair – Chairman Tucker
  - a. Changes to Art Commission Membership
    - i. Reappointment of Commissioner Maggie Adler  
City Council reappointed Maggie Adler to the Fort Worth Art Commission
    - ii. Appointment of Commissioner Arturo Martinez



Commissioner Martinez is a lifelong Northside resident and artist. Commissioner Martinez stated he is happy to be an advocate of the community and for arts and culture.

- iii. Farewell to Commissioner Bill Campbell  
Commissioner Tucker thanked Commissioner Campbell for his seven-year service as an Art Commissioner.

Commissioner Campbell stated it has been a pleasure and honor to serve on the Art Commission. Commissioner Campbell thanked the Art Commission and staff for a job well done.

- b. Current Art Commission Opening:
  - i. Position 8 – Community Representative 3
- c. Upcoming Art Commission Retreat  
The Fort Worth Art Commission Retreat is scheduled for November 5, 2022.
- d. Chairman's Comments on Current Agenda Items  
Action Item IX has been postponed to the October Art Commission Meeting.

IV. Public Comments – None

V. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Project Outline for Meacham Corridor Public Art Project, located along Meacham Boulevard between I-35W and Beach Street, 76137 (Council District 4)

A motion was made by Commissioner Harwood and seconded by Commissioner Brooks to approve the Project Outline for Meacham Corridor Public Art Project, located along Meacham Boulevard between I-35W and Beach Street, 76137 (Council District 4). The motion passed (5-0-0).

VI. Presentations (Part 1)

- a. Update on Revised Final Design of Artwork by Marshall Harris for Fire Station #43, to be located at the intersection of Walsh Ranch Parkway and Walsh Avenue, 76008 (Council District 3)
  - i. Report of Staff - Michelle Richardson  
On February 10, 2020, Harris's Preliminary Design was approved by the Art Commission. In Summer 2020, the project was placed on hold due to unforeseen circumstances which required a new site for Fire Station #43. In the interim, Harris saw significant cost increases for proposed materials and services. City requested the artist develop a redesign based on the approved Preliminary Design which would be in budget. If there are no objections, Harris will proceed with the engineering of the artwork and present the Final Design (redesign) at a future Art Commission meeting. Upon approval, Harris would turn the project over to the City to be implemented by others.
  - ii. Presentation – Marshall Harris, artist



During his micro-residency, Harris noted the resilience and persistence of the firefighters who serve their community; these have served as themes for the project.

The original design consisted of a steel structure depicting a waterspout shooting out of a fire hose nozzle. The sculpture was set on a plinth which had three panels with phrases associated with firefighters and their work.

Harris' redesign includes replacing the stainless-steel panels with tension cables five (5) anchor points on a star-shaped foundation. Ninety (90) cables are attached to a twenty-five foot (25') tall galvanized utility pole, maintaining the height of the sculpture to meet the Core Team's original goal of the artwork acting as a landmark for the area. Though visually appearing delicate, the sculpture is structurally sound, designed much like a suspension bridge. To meet the budget, lighting has been removed from the sculpture at this time.

- iii. Project Core Team Comments  
Mark Rauscher with the Fort Worth Fire Department emailed Richardson stating the Fire Station staff support the new design.
- iv. Public Comments- None.
- v. Art Commission Discussion

Harris confirmed he completed his micro-residency at Fire Station #17 and #23. Richardson added that since then, a temporary Fire Station #43 has been established and Mr. Rauscher has shared the artist's redesign with at least one current captain. Staff's understanding is that there are frequent personnel shifts within the department, therefore the program has relied on the Fire Department's senior staff members and FWFD appointed Public Art Advisors for Fire Station #43 to speak on the department's behalf.

Commissioner Harwood felt the artwork was reminiscent of some of the fire department equipment and would be of interest to firefighters at the station. If possible, he felt lighting would enhance the shadow properties of the piece. Commissioner Talambas likes the shadow the sculpture creates however he misses the "curviness" of the previous design, stating the concept of water gets lost. In addition to curves, he felt emphasizing the nozzle as part of the sculpture might further relay the concept of artwork being a representation of water.

**VII. PUBLIC ART PLAN FOR THE 2022 BOND PROGRAM (6:00 pm time certain)**

- a. **PUBLIC HEARING** – *REVISED ENDORSED DRAFT* Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program (All Council Districts)
  - i. Presentation – Martha Peters



The 2022 Bond Program was approved by Fort Worth voters with the following allocations for public art: \$3,655,300 for Proposition A: Street and Mobility Infrastructure (1%); \$2,430,500 for Proposition B: Park and Recreation Improvements (2%); \$245,200 for Proposition C: Public Library Improvements (2%); \$771,000 for Proposition D: Police and Fire Public Safety Improvements (2%); for a grand total of \$7,102,000.

Public art funds must be expended on capital projects within the bond proposition and public art project budgets must be appropriate to the scale of the site for visual impact. Budgets must also include allowances for project management costs and contingencies for cost spikes and unforeseen needs. Planning considerations include visibility and public engagement, geographic equity, and opportunities for local emerging public artists.

Proposition A includes six (6) projects with funds set aside for Community Partnership Projects. These project locations must be part of the 2022 Bond Program Proposition A. The Art Commission will need to recommend eligibility, policies and procedures to City Council. Proposition B includes five (5) projects and Propositions C-D include four (4) projects.

Throughout 2022, the Art Commission Chairman, along with other commissioners met with Council Members regarding the 2022 Bond Program projects in their districts to gather input. In late September 2022, the plan will be presented to City Council and adopted in October 2022.

ii. Citizens Presentations

Eddie Sandoval made a public comment at the Art Commission meeting.

*"We acknowledge this place is a sacred site where land and water come together, where herds of animals, flocks of birds, and schools of fish have lived since prehistoric times.*

*This was the home of communities of ancient people who dwelt on this land and refreshed themselves with its water, whose bones and spirits remain here, held by the land. We are mindful of these ancestors, and of the people who later traversed this land, such as the Apache, Biloxi, Caddo (Anadarko and Ioni), Cherokee, Comanche, Delaware, Kickapoo, Seminole, Tonkawa, and Wichita (Kichai, Taovaya, Tawakoni and Waco).*

*We acknowledge our responsibilities to protect the land and water from harm, both accidental harm and harm done with knowledge, so the gift of land and water may remain for generations to come, for those whose faces we have not yet seen."*

Anne Allen read an email sent from Sallie Cotter Andrews.

*"Thank you, Fort Worth Art Commission, for the opportunity to send in some positive comments regarding Paddock Park public art. My name is Sallie Cotter*



*Andrews, I am a citizen of Wyandotte Nation in Oklahoma, a seated faith keeper in the longhouse, and a resident/employee in Tarrant County for 31 years.*

*The location of Paddock Park, at the apex of North Main Street and West Belknap Street offers a second-to-none location to showcase exactly what Fort Worth and Tarrant County stand for – excellent and enviable quality of life. There, above the Trinity River, is the place where without doubt American Indian women stood and gave thanks for water and worked to protect water for their families and for the generations to come – the faces yet unseen. Native women have for millennia been mindful of the importance of water for all creation because each form of life is important and interconnected to each other. In water, human life is nurtured until birth. Water is required to sustain life for all living things. It is required for food production, for cleansing, for healing and good health. Water is worthy of our stewardship.*

*While sometimes we think the values and traditions of our ancient ancestors are long gone and not viable for today's lifestyle, the truth is just the opposite. Native women continue to be the keepers of water in our country and around the globe, and sometimes they put their lives on the line as the protectors of the environment. Today, those values of appreciation and concern for our mother, the earth, are alive within the community in which we live. Water quality is a priority for Fort Worth and Tarrant County.*

*To reflect the mindfulness of the importance of water, it would be very appropriate to put into tangible form this commitment to water, for our lives and for the lives of future generations. A statue in Paddock Park of an American Indian woman bringing a tobacco gift to the water to show thanks would reflect past good actions.*

*She would be shadowed from behind by the Tarrant County Courthouse, the symbol of today's government. The Courthouse would visually offer a supportive embrace to her action. This scenario – of the past and the present together in agreement on a continuing common goal – would showcase the Trinity River as it brings new life to our community and region.*

*This is a story that can be told with honesty and beauty – because it is a true story. The installation of a large statue of an American Indian woman honoring and protecting water can catalyze business growth. Visitors will come from across the country and around the world to experience the statue and to hear our story firsthand. Women are the protectors of water...and everyone can work together for the same purpose.*

*Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts about this wonderful opportunity!"*

- b. **ACTION ITEM** - Approve and Make Recommendation that City Council to Adopt the Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program (All Council Districts).



- i. Art Commission Discussion  
Commissioners thanked fellow Commissioners and Public Art staff for their great work on creating the Public Art Plan.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Harwood and seconded by Commissioner Brooks to approve and make recommendation that City Council Adopt the Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program (All Council Districts). The motion passed (6-0-0).**

VIII. **PUBLIC ART FISCAL YEAR 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

- a. **PUBLIC HEARING** – *REVISED ENDORSED DRAFT* Public Art Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Work Plan (All Council Districts)
  - i. Presentation – Martha Peters

In Fiscal Year 2022, three (3) projects have been completed; *Standing Strong* at the Diamond Hill Community Center, *Wildflower* at the East Regional Library, and *Beauty in Becoming* on Forest Park Boulevard near the Holly Water Treatment Plant. Other projects are expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

In Fiscal Year 2023, most of the new projects will be from the 2022 Bond Program. Ongoing projects will include nine (9) pieces currently in fabrication, (13) thirteen pieces in the design phase, three (3) projects in the artist selection process, four (4) projects in the planning phase, six (6) pending or on hold projects, including two (2) major collection management projects.

Additionally, new and ongoing initiatives include: administrative process improvements; implementation of FWPA Master Plan Update (Iconic Artworks and Opportunities for local artists); community partnership project policies; and future City Hall public art opportunities.

On September 20, 2022, staff will present the plan to City Council and in October 2022 the plan will be adopted.

- ii. Citizens Presentations – None.

- b. **ACTION ITEM** - Approve and Make Recommendation that City Council Adopt the Public Art Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Work Plan (All Council Districts).
  - ii. Art Commission Discussion  
Commissioner Harwood thanked staff for their great work.

Commissioner Tucker asked that the two (2) public comments be included in the minutes.



**A motion was made by Commissioner Talambas and seconded by Commissioner Brooks to approve and make recommendation that City Council to Adopt the Public Art Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Work Plan (All Council Districts). The motion passed 6-0-0.**

IX. Presentations (Part 2)

- a. Fort Worth Public Art Collection Management Advisory Committee Report (All Council District)
  - i. Report of Staff – Jenny Conn
  - ii. Presentation of Committee Members – Mark Thistlethwaite, Devon Nowlin, Stephanie Saunders, and David Bucher
  - iii. Art Commission Discussion

**Action Item IX is postponed until the October Art Commission Meeting.**

X. Staff Report and Announcements

- a. Upcoming City Council Presentations / Action Items:
  - i. September 20, 2022 – Presentation of the Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program and Public Art Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Work Plan – Martha Peters
  - ii. September 27, 2022 – M&C Final Design and Commission, Mark Reigelman, Las Vegas Trail Roundabout Public Art Project
  - iii. October 4, 2022 – Presentation of the Heritage/Paddock Park Schematic Design and Heritage Park Public Art Master Plan
- b. Informal Reports:
  - i. North Beach Corridor – Alida Labbe  
Twelve 19-foot-tall sculptures are now installed at the North Beach Corridor. Staff played a news clip from Channel 11 news that highlighted the artwork installation.
  - ii. Rosemont Park – Michelle Richardson  
Installation begins September 20. The work will be substantially completed by September 30.
  - iii. Chapel Creek Artist Selection Update – Anne Allen  
The Core Team and panelists determined it would be more impactful and equitable to have the two project artists address just the street light poles versus splitting the budget between a free-standing artwork in a park and artwork on only some of the light poles. Neighborhoods would benefit by receiving an equal distribution of art. The finalists are Eliza Au, Brenda Ciardiello, Aubree Dale, Layla Luna, Lori MacClean and S V Randall.
  - iv. *Natura* Sculpture Acquisition – Jenny Conn  
The Art Commission recommended Mallard Cove as the site location for the sculpture. The Council Member in the proposed district did not approve the site location.



A new site location will be proposed at the next Art Commission meeting.

- v. Near Southside Gateways Mentorship Call to Artists – Martha Peters  
Fort Worth Public Art is creating a pilot mentorship program for the Near Southside Gateways project, which includes the E. Rosedale underpass at I-35W, and the South Main underpass at the Union Pacific Railroad. The mentorship will include two (2) local artists with ties to the Near Southside and/or the Historic Southside to be mentored by the award-winning public artists commissioned for these projects, Bill Fitzgibbons and RE:site during the Final Design Phase for these project.

Commissioner Tucker asked for the selected artists to be representative of the community. Peters responded that they are hoping to select artists of color for this project.

Commissioner Talambas asked if selected artist for the mentorship program are providing creative ideas for the artist teams. Peters responded the program is not collaborative but rather educational. Peters added that an honorarium is offered for those who participate in the program.

Talambas asked what the work expectation is for the mentees. Peters responded that this will be an educational opportunity for artists to learn the public art process from experienced artists and may include a research assignment to assist the project artists.

A guest asked if an artist under the age of 18 who has exceptional artwork and that the community recommends would be able to apply to the program. Peters clarified that the artist mentee is not designing the artwork for the project and that this is a city project which requires a minimum age of 18. However, if a citizen had suggestions for the project it would be added to public comments.

- c. Recent Community Engagement Events – Michael Asbill
  - i. Recent Near Southside Gateways Community Meetings  
Arts Fort Worth staff members were present at these meetings on August 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Wesley Gentle commended that the meetings were well attended, and the mentorship program was referenced as well. In October there will be another opportunity for community feedback and a townhall will occur in November.

Michael Asbill highlighted articles from the Fort Worth Report and Star-Telegram that mentioned Public Art and the Near Southside Gateway Project.

- d. Upcoming Community Engagement Events – Michael Asbill
  - i. Dedication of *Beauty in Becoming* by Lynne Bowman Cravens on Saturday, October 22, 2022, 9:00 a.m. in Trinity Park, south of Rotary Plaza across Forest Park Boulevard from the artwork.





- e. Announcements of Staff
  - i. CODAworks Awards to RE:site and Bill Fitzgibbons announced.
  - ii. Neighborhood Leap Augmented Reality Art Trail on South Main Street  
Martha Peters has an artwork included in the Art Trail.
  - iii. Meow Wolf North Texas engaging artists on FWPA Pre-Qualified List  
Of the artists selected, over 30 are Texas based, including artists Brook Cheney, Riley Holloway and Mariell Guzman.

XI. Announcements of Commissioners

Commissioner Tucker reminded Art Commissioners about the Community Partnership Committee. Commissioner Brooks commented that she is interested in serving on the committee.

Commissioner Tucker reminded fellow Art Commissioners to respond to staff regarding the proposed Art Commission Retreat date.

XII. Future Agenda Items – None

XIII. Next Meeting - Chairman Tucker

- a. Monday, October 17, 2022, 5:00 p.m., Fort Worth Community Arts Center
  - i. Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2023

XIV. Adjournment – Chairman Tucker adjourned the meeting at 6:36 p.m.