



**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING AGENDA  
FORT WORTH ART COMMISSION  
Monday, December 12, 2022, 5:00 p.m.**

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

**PRESENT**

Commissioner Maggie Adler  
Commissioner Branigan Contreras  
Commissioner Raul Pena

Commissioner Estrus Tucker  
Commissioner James Talambas

**ABSENT**

Commissioner Jennifer G. Brooks, Ph.D.  
Commissioner Randle Harwood  
Commissioner Arturo Martinez

**CITY STAFF**

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  
Natalie Lopez, Executive Assistant

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***MINUTES***

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Tucker called the meeting to order at 5:21 p.m. once quorum was reached.
- II. Approval of Minutes – Chairman Tucker
  - a. Special Called Meeting of November 14, 2022

**A motion was made by Commissioner Pena and seconded by Commissioner Talambas to approve the Art Commission minutes from the Special Called Meeting of November 14, 2022. The motion was approved (5-0-0).**

- III. Report of Chair – Chairman Tucker
  - a. Current Art Commission Opening:
    - i. Position 8 – Community Representative 3
  - b. Chairman's Comments on Current Agenda Items  
Action item "VI.a. to Approve Preliminary Design by Ball-Nogues Design Studio for the Riverside Park Public Art Project", is postponed to the meeting of January 23, 2023.



IV. Public Comments – None.

V. Consent Agenda Items

- a. Approve Selection Panel Recommendation of Artists SV Randall and Brenda Ciardiello, with Alternate Artist Lori MacLean, for the Chapel Creek Corridor Public Art Project, Located on Chapel Creek Boulevard from Old Weatherford Highway to White Settlement Road, 76104 (Council District 3)
- b. Approve Art Commission Meeting Schedule for the 2023 Calendar Year (All Council Districts)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Adler and seconded by Commissioner Contreras to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was approved (5-0-0).**

VI. Action Item

- a. Approve Preliminary Design by Ball-Nogues Design Studio for the Riverside Park Public Art Project, to be Located at 501 Oakhurst Scenic Drive, 76111 (Council District 9)
  - i. Report of Staff – Alida Labbe  
*NOTE: This action item is postponed to the Art Commission Meeting of January 23, 2022.*

VII. **ENDORSED DRAFT HERITAGE PARK PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN (6:00 PM Time Certain)**

- a. **PUBLIC HEARING** - Endorsed Draft Heritage Park Public Art Master Plan by Legge Lewis Legge, LLC, 247-283 N. Houston Street, Fort Worth, 76102 (Citywide)
  - i. Presentation – Martha Peters

On April 7, 2020, the City of Fort Worth authorized an agreement with Downtown Fort Worth Initiatives, Inc, to select a consultant to design improvements for Heritage and Paddock Parks using 2014 bond funding.

On December 14, 2020, the Fort Worth Art Commission approved a process to select an artist team with experience in public art planning to develop a public art master plan for Heritage and Paddock Parks with 2014 bond funds.

On May 17, 2021, the Art Commission approved the selection of Legge Lewis Legge LLC – a multidisciplinary team composed of an artist, architect, and filmmaker with extensive experience in public art planning and project – to develop a public art master plan that identifies:

- Thematic approaches for public art elements based on the cultural history of the site, along with examples
- Locations and types of public art of various scales including, iconic, interactive, permanent and temporary
- Opportunities for artist team and for diverse local artists to participate

In summer 2021, Andrea and Murray Legge visited the site and began holding a series of meetings with Downtown Fort Worth Initiatives, Inc., and



design consultant MIG, to coordinate efforts.

The artist team gathered research to develop a timeline of the Heritage Park site, starting from 539 million years ago at the beginning of the fossil record to the current development of the site. Research also included stakeholder meetings and interviews with diverse community members and experts with a wide range of expertise and connections with the site.

The *Draft* Heritage Park Public Art Master Plan specifies three (3) general types of public art: Iconic, Immersive, and Light-based. The plan recommends five (5) artwork locations that collectively provide opportunities for temporary and permanent artworks and uses the concept of “heritage” as the basis for the plan. The artist team wants to acknowledge the history of the area and those who have inhabited the banks of the Trinity River, including Native Americans, Mexican Americans, and African Americans.

The recommended five (5) specific artwork sites are:

1. Paddock Park: Legge Lewis Legge, LLC subcontracted Eddie Sandoval to create a Land and Water Acknowledgement for Heritage and Paddock Parks. This site will include a permanent iconic artwork that serves as a gateway. The artist team prefers to have a piece created by a Native American artist and that represents Native American histories and heritage.
2. La Corte Barrio: Permanent, interactive work inspired by the history of La Corte Barrio. Due to the location of the canopy walk, the artwork site will be located closer to Paddock Viaduct but will still be inspired by the La Carte Barrio ruins.
3. Tarrant County Parking Garage: Program of long term or temporary vinyl or light-based projects which engage the north-facing parking garage façade.
4. The River’s Edge: Program of temporary works sited along the River Road and possibly engaging the river. A suggested theme for the first program is “River Bottom” to commemorate those who lived there prior to the time of La Corte Barrio.
5. River Stairs and Canopy Walk: Permanent or temporary projects that are situated on the River Stairs and /or Canopy Walk. These projects will be installed after the River Stairs and Canopy Walk construction is complete.

This Wednesday the *Draft* Heritage Park Public Art Master Plan will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and in January 2023, the Art Commission will vote to approve the plan.

The *Draft* Heritage Park Public Art Master Plan is available on the Fort Worth Public Art website at <https://fwpublicart.org/fwpa-master-plan/>.



ii. Citizens Presentations – None.

VIII. Discussion Item

a. Revised Site Selection Process for the Acquisition of a Limestone Sculpture Titled *Natura* by Fort Worth-based Artist Alice Bateman (Council District 8)

i. Report of Staff – Jenny Conn

*Natura* is a limestone sculpture by local artist Alice Bateman created during the 1999 Sculpture Symposium and the last to be formally acquired as part of the City's FWPA Community Legacy Collection.

The Art Commission recommended the acquisition of *Natura* in late 2014 and following an extensive site selection process, including Park and Recreation Department staff, and a site selection panel composed of Art Commissioners and City staff, the panel approved Mallard Cove Park in Council District 5, pending community support.

Following a lengthy and thorough site selection process in coordination with the Parks and Recreation Department, on March 22, 2017, the Art Commission endorsed the Site Selection Panel's recommendation of Mallard Cove Park in District 5, contingent on community support. Staff proceeded with various community engagement opportunities both before and during COVID-19. After consultation and concurrence with the Council Member for District 5, public art staff recommend considering the alternate site selected at the Tandy Hills Natural Area.

Tandy Hills is located less than five miles from Downtown Fort Worth and is noted for its unusually complete collections of prairie flora with more than 1200 native species. The natural area was selected as an alternate site as its location, high public use and the natural themes promoted by Tandy Hills stakeholders are compatible with the botanical theme of the sculpture.

However, as a protected natural area containing hundreds of native plant and animal species, incentivizing visitors to leave the trail to view the sculpture was a concern for stakeholders, including the Friends of Tandy Hills.

In Spring of 2020, the City acquired an additional 51 acres on the far eastern section of the park known as Broadcast Hill. The 2022 Bond Program,

Proposition E of the 2022 Bond Program, provided funds for open space acquisition and improvements. The Planning & Data Analytics Department is planning to utilize \$150,000.00 to develop and implement a preliminary trail system connecting Broadcast Hill with Tandy Hills Natural Area and Stratford Park. Because the prominent sculpture could compliment a welcoming, organic "gateway" into the Natural Area, Parks and FWPA staff recommends that the trail



design process be utilized to identify a location for the sculpture that does not endanger protected landscapes.

If there are no objections from the Art Commission, staff will engage with the appropriate Parks staff and District 8 Council Member Nettles to develop a plan for engaging community stakeholders.

ii. Art Commission Discussion

Commissioner Tucker asked what the rationale was for not placing public art in the Open Space property. Conn responded that in addition to sensitivity of the prairie landscape, the radio towers on the site are impressive and not conducive for displaying artwork.

Commissioner Adler asked if people are not really supposed to use the area. Sandra Youngblood (of the Park and Recreation Department) responded that Open Space properties are not designated parkland and there is currently no maintenance or development planned.

Eric Fladager (of the Planning & Data Analytics Department) commented that the location is intended to be a place for nature and unlike parks, is not developed for access.

Martha Peters added that the 2022 Bond program excluded a percentage for public art because the area was not meant for development.

Commissioner Talambas asked how much vegetation would be affected with the installation of this piece. Conn responded they hope for little to no interference with the vegetation. Conn added this is the first Open Space acquisition and is a good opportunity to see how the plan goes.

Conn added that there are funds available to renovate the base of the sculpture.

Art Commissioners stated they have no objections to staff's recommendation.

IX. Staff Report and Announcements

a. Recent City Council Presentations / Action Items:

i. November 29, 2022:

- Proclamation in Recognition of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fort Worth Community Arts Center
- Adoption of *Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program* (Citywide)\*
- Adoption of *Public Art Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Work Plan* (Citywide)\*

\*On Council's Consent Agenda



b. Informal Reports

i. Meacham Corridor – Michelle Richardson

On December 5, 2022, the Artist Selection Panel met and selected three (3) finalists: Susan Kaprov, Shan Shan Sheng, and Vicki Scuri. Orlosky Studio was chosen as the alternate. An orientation is planned for the first or second week of January and an interview process will take place in early February.

ii. North Z. Boaz Park – Anne Allen

If weather permits, this piece will be installed on Thursday, December 15, 2022. The grand opening of the park is anticipated in March 2023.

iii. Vivian J. Lincoln Library (Far Southwest Library) – Anne Allen

All Fort Worth are encouraged to submit content such as quotes, memories, photos, videos, etc. Submitted content will become part of the artwork. To submit, follow this link:

<https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/library/branches/lincolnlibrary>

c. Recent Publicity

i. *Glasstire* featured Elizabeth Akamatsu's public artworks, which included her latest piece *Rising Strong* commissioned by the City of Fort Worth for the Diamond Hill Community Center (Council District 2)

( <https://glasstire.com/2022/11/23/in-the-public-eye-elizabeth-akamatus-latest-sculptures/> )

d. Recent Community Engagement Events

i. Horne Street Artist Darryl Ratcliff collaborated with the Como Community Center during their Thanksgiving Dinner on Tuesday, November 22, 2022. The artist met with community members, led an art activity, and announced the mentorship program he will be leading as part of the Horne Street Public Art Project. The deadline to apply is currently December 19, however the artist may extend it to early January 2023 due to holidays. (Council District 3)

ii. Dedication of *Concentric Harmony* by Virginia Fleck took place on Saturday, December 3, 2022, followed by artist-led activity at Rosemont Park (Council District 9)

iii. Heritage Park Public Art Master Plan Local Artists Input Session was held on, December 7, 2022, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom (Citywide)

e. Announcements of Staff

i. Exhibition titled "...*More Than This*", curated by Anne Allen, with artwork by Rachel Barminski Bounds, Rosalyn Bodycomb, Janet Chaffee, and Dan Jian, at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center, Frost Gallery, December 2, 2022 – January 28, 2022.



- ii. Michelle Richardson announced that workshop for the community to participate in the creation of the artwork for the Universal Playground at North Park are being planned.
- iii. Martha Peters announced that Near Southside, Inc. was granted \$3.3 million from Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Board #4 for the Gateway Projects, including approximately \$790,000.00 for the public art projects at the South Main Tunnel and East Rosedale Underpass at I-35 W (Council District 9).
- iv. Alida Labbe announced that *Magnolia*, a three-dimensional mosaic dog sculpture by Julie Richie was installed at the North Animal Care and Control Center. There is one more sculpture to be installed to complete the project.

X. Announcements of Commissioners

Commissioner Tucker stated that the Artists Listening Session, held on October 27, 2022 at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center was beneficial and he hopes to host more sessions.

XI. Future Agenda Items – None.

XII. Next Meeting - Chairman Tucker

- a. Special Called Meeting - Monday, January 23, 2022, 5:00 p.m., *LOCATION TBD*  
(In-person only)

XIII. Adjournment – Chairman Tucker adjourned the meeting at 6:09 p.m.