

ERIE COUNTY ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES

General Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Meeting Minutes

The Arts in Public Places General Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 25th in the Eat Off Art Studio, Suite 441 of the Tri-Main Building, 2495 Main St, Buffalo NY 14214 and by video conference, in accordance with NYS Open Meetings Law. A quorum was present as indicated:

Members:

Alexa Wajed
Susan O'Connor Baird
Donald Siuta
Bernice Radle (entered at 11:45am)

Edreys Wajed (via telephone)

Ex-Officio Members:

Bill Geary (Commissioner of Erie County Department of Public Works)
Jeanne Vinal (Chairperson of the Legislature Community Enrichment Committee)
David Bojanowski (Designee for County Executive Mark Poloncarz)

Other Attendees:

Tracy Cichocki (Deputy Commissioner of Buildings and Grounds)
Thomas E. Baines (Deputy Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development)
Monica Boutin (Project Coordinator)

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum: The Arts in Public Places Committee was called to order by Chairwoman Wajed at 11:12 AM, roll call was taken by Monica Boutin and a quorum was declared present.
2. Approval of Draft Minutes :
 - Upon motion by Ms. O'Connor Baird and seconded by Mr. Siuta, the Draft Minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Process:
 - Monica Boutin presented research conducted by the Department of Environment & Planning on programming and operations of similar public art

programs across the country and proposed a process for Erie County's AIPP Committee to design a Master Public Art Plan that would meet the timeline and requirements stipulated in 2023 Local Law #4.

4. Timeline:

- Monica Boutin discussed a timeline proposed by Erie County Department of Environment and Planning. Discussion ensued.

5. Document Review:

- Chairwoman Wajed began reviewing the Draft Call to Artist document and proposed that the Committee include an additional track that is focused specifically on small works with the purpose of including more artists in the program.
- Monica Boutin presented six potential public art sites identified by Erie County Department of Public Works and the Erie County Department of Parks, Forestry and Recreation.
- Upon motion by Mr. Siuta and seconded by Ms. O'Connor, the Committee voted to incorporate all six locations into one Call for Artists, pending clarification from SUNY Erie on their proposed location.
- Discussion ensued regarding the need to add the following elements to the Call for Artists: contact information, a question period, artist timeline, ownership and licensing of art produced.
- Discussion ensued regarding the budget in the Draft Call to Artists and how to ensure applicants with small works, significantly under the \$250,000 cap, feel welcome to participate and submit their work. Upon motion by Legislator Vinal, and seconded by Ms. O'Connor Baird, the budget for the larger, site-specific works shall be "Up to \$200,000" and the budget for the small works shall be "\$2,000 - \$200,000". Chairwoman Wajed abstained. Motion carried.

6. Selection Committee:

- Ms. O'Connor Baird made a motion, seconded by Ms. Radle, to appoint all voting members of the Arts in Public Places Committee to the Selection Committee tasked with reviewing the Call to Artists submissions. Motion carried.

7. Unfinished Business:

- Due to time restraints, discussion and approval of Conflict of Interest and Whistleblower policies will take place during the next scheduled meeting.

8. New Business

9. Resolutions

10. Adjournment

- Upon motion made by Ms. Wajed, and seconded by Ms. O'Connor Baird, the meeting was adjourned at 12:47PM.