

ERIE COUNTY ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES

General Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Meeting Minutes

The Arts in Public Places General Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday January 14th, 2025 in the Eat Off Art Studio, Tri-Main Building, 2495 Main St. Ste. 441, 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
Edreys Wajed
Bernice Radle

Don Siuta – via video conference

Ex-Officio Members:

David Bojanowski (Designee for County Executive Mark Poloncarz)
William Geary (Commissioner of the Department of Public Works)

Other Attendees:

Thomas E. Baines (Deputy Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development)
Monica Boutin (Project Coordinator)
Ethan Frey (Junior Administrative Assistant (Leg))
Tracy Cichocki (Deputy Commissioner Buildings and Grounds)

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum:

- The Arts in Public Places Committee was called to order by Chairwoman Wajed at 12:16 PM, 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 Ms. Radle, the Draft Minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Selection Committee Report

- Ms. Wajed provided an update on the work completed by the Selection Committee, noting that Selection Committee members reviewed 58 submissions in response to the 2024 Call for Artists and subsequently met on January 2nd. During the January 2nd meeting, after a thorough analysis and discussion, members selected 3 projects to recommend for funding in the 2025 Master Public Art Plan. Ms. O'Connor Baird added that the recommendations were unanimously approved by all members of the Selection Committee (Alexa Wajed, Susan O'Connor Baird, Edreys Wajed, Bernice Radle, Don Siuta).
- 4. Executive Session
- 5. Roll Out Plan
 - Ms. Boutin provided an overview of next steps including:
 - a. Notifying finalists and non-finalists.
 - b. Posting the Draft Master Plan on Erie County's website.
 - c. Promoting the Plan's Public Comment Period and Public Hearing through traditional paid media, social media, and Executive Office press release.
- 6. Review Draft Master Plan
 - Committee members reviewed the Draft Master Plan (amended to include projects recommended by the Selection Committee). Ms. O'Connor Baird suggested Committee Member titles be added. Upon motion by Mr. Wajed, and seconded by Ms. O'Connor Baird, the vote to accept the Draft Master Plan as amended carried.
- 7. Resolutions:
 - **Resolution of the Arts in Public Places Committee Approving the Draft Language of the Annual Public Art Master Plan:** Upon motion by Mr. Wajed, and second by Ms. Radle, the resolution was unanimously passed by the Committee.
- 8. Unfinished Business
 - Locations needed for Small Works Acquisition Plan.
- 9. New Business
- 10. Adjournment
 - The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM.