

ERIE COUNTY ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

General Committee Meeting

Wednesday September 9, 2026

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

The Art in Public Places General Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday September 9, 2026, at the Buffalo Convention Center at 153 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY, 14202 and by video conference, in accordance with NYS Open Meetings Law. A quorum was present as indicated:

Members: Alexa Wajed, Chair

 Edreys Wajed

 Bernice Radle

 Don Siuta

 Susan O'Connor Baird (Excused)

Ex-Officio Members: Tina Shortt, County Legislature Community Enrichment Committee

Other Attendees: Hailey Whitney, Dir. of Development & Cooperative Partnerships, DEP

 Hristina Johnson, Administrative Clerk, DEP

 Shawn Griffin, Project Manager, DPW

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

The Art in Public Places Committee was called to order at 3:55 PM by Chairperson Wajed. Roll call was taken by Ms. Whitney, and a quorum was declared present.

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

Upon motion by Mr. Wajed and seconded by Mr. Siuta, the draft June 10, 2026 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

3. 2026 Major Works Update

Chairperson Wajed provided an update on the 2026 Major Works project proposed at Isle View Park and the ongoing coordination with the Submerge NY committee. Installation is still planned for Spring of 2027. Ms. Whitney clarified that feedback from the Submerge NY committee will impact the accompanying narrative.

Chairperson Wajed provided an update on the 2026 Major Works project proposed at the Botanical Gardens site.

4. 2026 Minor Works Update

Ms. Whitney provided an update on the Small Works Selection Meeting and collection unveiling event. The event is tentatively scheduled for December 16th. 2027.

5. Resolution

Chairperson Wajed presented a resolution to officially recommend acquisition of selected 2026 Small Works pieces and to begin contract process with the selected Major Works proposal. Upon motion made by Ms. Radle, and seconded by Mr. Wajed, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

6. Officer Elections

Ms. Whitney provided an update on previous officer nominations. Upon motion made by Mr. Suita and seconded by Ms. Radle, Mr. Wajed was elected the new Chairperson of the Arts in Public Places Committee and Ms. Wajed was elected the new Vice-Chair.

7. Annual Policy Certifications

Ms. Whitney asked the Committee members to complete their annual policy certifications and return them to Department of Environment & Planning staff by the next meeting.

8. Committee Membership Renewal

Ms. Whitney reminded the Committee that terms are set to expire at the end of the year, with all members having the ability to remain on the Committee for one additional term. Ms. Radle and Ms. Wajed discussed the potential for expanding the size of the committee to ensure smooth transition of work from year to year.

9. 2027 Master Public Art Plan

Ms. Whitney provided an update on the beginning of the planning process for the 2027 Master Public Art Plan. Ms. Whitney also shared information submitted from Erie County College regarding potential Major Works locations for 2027.

10. Unfinished Business - None

11. New Business- None

12. Public Comment - None

13. Adjournment

The Art in Public Places Committee meeting was adjourned at 4:24 PM.