

Public Art and Community Design Committee

Of the Arts Foundation for Tucson and Southern Arizona

Approved Minutes

Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 3:30 pm

To join the Virtual Zoom Meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone use the following methods:

Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81738607613>

Webinar ID: 817 3860 7613 Phone: +1 564 217 2000 US

Agenda Item	Type	Presenter	Time
<p>1. Roll Call to Establish Quorum Public Art and Community Design Committee Chair Jim Glock called the meeting to order at 3:34 PM. Roll Call was taken by Sadie Shaw, and *quorum was established with 11 members in attendance.</p> <p>Committee Members Present: Adriane Ackerman, Corinne Cooper, E. Liane Hernandez, Emily Tate, Jim Glock, Janet Fischer, Maureen Lueck, Nancy Fung, **Valerie Sanchez, Alisha Vasquez, Anthony Avila, ***Brandon Varela, Kathleen Velo</p> <p>Committee Members Absent: Anne Lopez, Lara Somers, Kenna Smith, Margaret Joplin, Melissa Brown-Dominguez, Valerie Sipp</p> <p>*13 PACDC Members were present during the meeting directly after the Roll Call.</p> <p>**Valerie Sanchez arrived after roll call at 3:46 PM.</p> <p>***Brandon Varela arrived after roll call at 3:45 PM.</p>		Sadie	5
<p>2. Introduction of Guests & Attendees Chairman Glock asked Arts Foundation Staff and guests to introduce themselves.</p> <p>AFTSA: Sadie Shaw, Arts Foundation PACDC Administrator; Wylwyn Reyes, Director of Public Art; Ariel Fry, Arts Foundation Public Art Coordinator</p> <p>Guests & Members of the Public: Ignacio Garcia, Fred Narcaroti, Sam Merriman, Mark Baird, Laura, Marsha, Ndubisi Okoye, Robin Sparks, Kuuleme Stephens, Jack Anderson, Felix Lawrence</p>		Jim	3
<p>3. Pledge of Allegiance or Moment of Silence A moment of silence was observed for one minute by the committee and guests.</p>		Jim	1
<p>4. Call to the Audience</p>		Jim	15

Members of the public must sign-up to speak at the Call to the Audience:

<https://airtable.com/appEkdoNa9uaLutTZ/shr1SX8hMC5u3iS5p>

Chairman Glock read the Call to the Audience script and gave the floor to the individual who signed-up, Felix Lawrence.

Mr. Lawrence commented on the rodeo mural donation and suggested that the committee may be concerned about animal rights activists taking issue with the mural but those concerned should be ignored because those types of people are not rich or powerful. Mr. Lawrence was concerned about the rights of the artist and not the animals.

Mr. Lawrence also commented on the Thrive in the 05: Sugar Hill Mural and expressed his concern about his application for this project about the Free Wall concept, which was, as he said, rejected from the pool of applicants.

5. Committee Member Activity Report

Announcement Jim 5

Chairman Glock welcomed the committee and invited the PACDC Members to speak on upcoming events that may of interest to the committee. He also asked PACDC Members to introduce themselves and give a short introduction for the benefit of the new PACDC Member for Ward 2, Kathleen Velo.

All PACDC Members introduced themselves, stated their appointing office and gave a brief introduction. Chairman Glock opened the floor to allow PACDC Members to report on any activities.

Adriane Ackerman mentioned that she attended the Somos Unos Report meeting and also met with Mayor Regina Romero about the feasibility of a Free Wall somewhere on city property.

Chairman Glock added that Mayor Romero introduced a free wall sixteen years ago when she was Ward 1 Council Member but noted that it had to be discontinued due to issues with the neighborhood.

Brandon Varela mentioned that he will be a presenter at the Western Museums Association convening at Lowes Ventana Canyon to discuss collaborations with indigenous community curators who are creating contemporary art exhibits. The event will take place from September 25th through the 28th. His presentation will be on the 26th from 11:15 AM – 1:30 PM.

Liane Hernandez thanked the guests at the meeting for their work in supporting public art.

6. Public Art Director's Report

Announcement Wylwyn 5

Wylwyn Reyes, Public Art Director, notified the PACDC Members of the upcoming project at La Madera Park (Ward 3) and the Todd M.

Harris Sports Complex (Ward 4). Mr. Reyes encouraged the Members to contact him if they would like to participate in the panel.

In October, the Call to Artists will launch for the Drexel Road Bridge project. Next Spring, the Artist Roster will be renewed and all artists on the roster are required to reapply. Mr. Reyes suggested that the Cushing St. Skate Park may be a good location for a free wall if the city were interested in pursuing such a project.

7. Review & Approval of August 14, 2024, Meeting Minutes	Action	Jim	5
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Motion to approve minutes as presented by Corinne Cooper.
 Second by Liane Hernandez.
 Motion passed unanimously.

8. Public Art Donation Review and Vote: Tucson Rodeo’s 100 Year Anniversary Mural	Action	Sadie	20
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Sadie Shaw, Public Art & Community Design Administrator, gave a presentation on the proposed donation honoring the 100th Anniversary of Tucson’s Rodeo. The presentation included the donation procedures that have been completed, which are still pending. The presentation also included the donation criteria for the PACDC Members to utilize in their approval process such as appropriateness of the artwork based on design, maintenance, community support, and design.

Ms. Shaw then presented the seven design concepts submitted by the artist, Ignacio Garcia.

Sam Merriman provided more information about the proposal and why they wanted to celebrate these three cultures in the first design submitted.

The artist, Ignacio Garcia, spoke on his process when being contracted with the Tucson Rodeo Committee which started with research. The initial design acknowledged the core cultures of the region.

Mark Baird said that the initial design was the truest representation of the Tucson Rodeo’s heritage and the city’s heritage from the 1925 start date of the Tucson Rodeo. Mr. Baird noted that the Tucson Rodeo Committee did not want to include the use of animals or the rodeo events in the design but wanted to focus mainly on the murals. Marcia noted that the first concept speaks to the core of what came together to form the Rodeo in Tucson and that to have more figures the composition becomes crowded.

Laura agreed with Marcia that the first design was preferred and gave nod to the Fiesta de los Vaqueros.

Fred Narcaroti said that he also preferred the first concept and that it represents where they came from and where they are going. Mr.

Narcaroti appreciated the Artist's skill to merge the cultures of the region within the three figures.

Robin Sparks said she has a minor in history from the University of Arizona and stated that this region's history has been somewhat misrepresented. Ms. Sparks said that when Tucson was founded in the 16th century by 15 people from Culiacan, Mexico, seven of which were Afro-Mexican and that in the 18th Century after the Civil War, the west was settled because of Buffalo Soldiers who were based in Ft. Huachuca. Ms. Sparks noted that her grandfather had a ranch in Tucson in the 1930s and that she knows the history of Tucson includes African Americans.

Brandon Varela said that the inclusion of the other two figures (the female and the African American cowboy) adds to the history. Mr. Varela stated that the long history of the Tucson Rodeo is due to the citizens and that the addition of the two figures adds to the future of the rodeo. Mr. Varela mentioned that the colors of the figures and the logo gets lost since they have similar colors.

Mr. Garcia commented that he tried to be as inclusive of history as possible within the constraints of the wall. He mentioned that he did not want the design to look like it was a promotion for a Netflix series.

Corinne Cooper said that the design with the four figures was a better use of the space especially since there is a cut out area of the wall at the top.

Adriane Ackerman thanked the artist for capturing all the ideas from the PACDC Members in the previous meeting. Ms. Ackerman stated that she enjoyed the designs that included the open space but preferred the designs with the figures. She noted that although she wants the design to be as inclusive as possible, there is not enough space on the wall to include everything and everyone.

Alisha Vasquez asked the Rodeo Committee to consider the implications of what story is being told in the design, and how it doesn't necessarily speak to the entire history of Tucson's rodeo. She noted that the PACDC Members are flagging things the public is will comment on. She noted that the first image does not make her feel included.

Kuuleme Stephens commented that all of the designs are gorgeous, but she prefers the four people since it includes women and African Americans who both had a big part in the Tucson Rodeo.

Fred Narcaroti stated that they selected the downtown location to recognize the original location of the Tucson Rodeo.

Janet Fischer stated that she preferred the first design and noted that the female figure looked too glamorous.

Adriane Ackerman stated that she wants to defer to the Rodeo Committee and the Artist but just requested that the central figure be moved.

Mr. Garcia stated that the first design was changed slightly, bringing the figure on the right side further forward and to consider adding to the narrative more symbolism that wasn't so human centric.

Mr. Merriman thanked the PACDC Members for their comments. He noted that the wagons and other things in the parade were not included because there is a separation between the Rodeo Committee and the Rodeo parade.

Chairman Glock asked the PACDC Members to entertain a motion that would give the Artist choice of which design to move forward with based on the comments by the PACDC Members.

Ms. Cooper asked Wylwyn if the Chair's suggestion is an abnegation of their role on the committee.

Mr. Reyes said it is not.

Mr. Garcia asked who approved the donation.

Mr. Reyes said that the PACDC Members approve it, then it goes to the Ward and City Manager's Office who also need to approve the donation.

Chairman Glock commented that the PACDC Members often approve artists without knowing what the final design is.

Ms. Ackerman asked Mr. Reyes if there is a threshold of votes needed for approval and if PACDC Members can abstain.

Ms. Shaw noted that a simple majority is needed for approval.

Chairman Glock asked Ms. Shaw if abstentions are considered a no vote.

Ms. Shaw commented that the BCC Office advised her that abstentions could impact quorum and so yes or no votes are preferred.

Ms. Stephens asked Mr. Merriman if "La Fiesta de los Vaqueros" would be included in the design.

Mr. Merriman said that it may be included.

Ms. Fischer asked if they voted on a specific concept, does the artist have to follow through with that concept or do a different version.

Mr. Reyes answered that the design specifics are not necessarily under the committee's purview. The PACDC Members are judging the design on its appropriateness mainly and that they try to avoid design by committee.

Chairman Glock asked the PACDC Members to entertain a motion that would give the choice of the design to the artist and ask that he considers elements suggested by the panel.

Motion by Liane Hernandez to approve the Tucson Rodeo mural donation and placement with content decided by artist Ignacio Garcia.

Seconded by Janet Fischer.

Motion amended by Maureen Lueck to have the Rodeo mural design include people.

Seconded by Corinne Cooper.

Maureen Lueck withdrew her amendment, second withdrawn by Corinne Cooper.

Roll Call Vote for original motion:

Yay: Adriane Ackerman, Liane Hernandez, Jim Glock, Emily Tate, Janet Fischer, Maureen Lueck, Nancy Fung, Alisha Vasquez, Anthony Avila, Brandon Varela, Kathleen Velo

Nay: Corinne Cooper, Robert Clark

*Valerie Sanchez left the meeting at 5:15, her absence did not impact quorum.

9. Review and Vote on Panel Recommendation for Thrive in the 05: Sugar Hill Mural Project	Action	Sadie	10
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Sadie Shaw, Public Art & Community Design Administrator, gave a presentation on the panel review and artist selection of Ndubisi Okoye for the Thrive in the 05: Sugar Hill Mural Project. The Call to Artists for this project started on July 11th and closed on August 13th with 63 applications received. The mural will go on the West facing wall of Max’s Center attractions located at 2032 N Stone. The all-inclusive budget for this project is \$54,000. Ms. Shaw presented the process for selecting the three finalists and then opened the floor to the project panel to share comments.

Robin Sparks, a member of the Sugar Hill Mural panel, spoke on the erasure of Black history and culture in the city and in public art.

Kuuleme Stephens, a member of the Sugar Hill Mural panel, stated that they chose this artist because he had a unique understanding of the community through his background and was also interested in having the community involved in painting the mural.

Ndubisi Okoye, the selected artist for this project, thanked the committee. He stated his excitement of working with the community because of its rich history and its similarity with his community in Detroit.

Adriane Ackerman noted that she was happy he was chosen and appreciated the community engagement element that he will bring to the project. Ms. Ackerman asked Mr. Okoye how he planned to create his designs and if there would be any outreach or further research.

Mr. Okoye stated that he began researching Sugar Hill when he was selected as a finalist. He added that he would continue to do a deep dive in the Sugar Hill Oral History Project, the Sugar Hill banner website and other means.

Ms. Sparks added that many of the panelists are still in the neighborhood and can provide more information to the artist as he creates his mural design.

Corinne Cooper commented that she is very excited for this project and that this mural will be a terrific edition. She also added that the committee has a history of giving the neighborhood panel the power to select the artist and the design.

Motion by Adriane Ackerman.

Seconded by Alisha Vasquez.

*Approved unanimously via roll call vote.

*Valerie Sanchez left the meeting at 5:15, her absence did not impact quorum.

10. Request Additions for Next Month Agenda	Announcement	Jim	3
No additions were requested.			
11. Adjournment		Jim	
Chairman Glock adjourned the meeting at 5:23 PM.			

Public Art and Community Design Committee Meetings are Open to the Public

Citizens, particularly artists, interested in public art are encouraged to attend. Action may be taken on any agenda item. This meeting will be held virtually unless otherwise noted on the agenda. Meeting materials will be presented as part of the virtual meeting. Community members who wish to speak at the Call to Audience can click on the link below and will be added to a list on a first come first serve basis: <https://airtable.com/shr1SX8hMC5u3iS5p>

Committee Members

Anne Lopez—W4, Bob Clark—W5, Corinne Cooper-W3, Emily Tate—D1, James Glock—AF, Janet Fischer—W6, Kenna Smith—AF, Lara Somers—City Manager, Margaret Joplin-AF, Maureen Lueck-County Administrator, Melissa Brown-Dominguez—D2, Nancy Fung—AF, Valerie Sanchez-AF, Valerie Sipp—AF, Adriane Ackerman-Mayor, E. Liane Hernandez – W1, Alisha Vasquez—D5, Anthony Avila – D3, Brandon Varela – AF, Kathleen Velo – W2

Accessibility

If you require an accommodation or materials in accessible format or require a foreign language interpreter or materials in a language other than English for this event, please call the Arts Foundation at 520.624.0595 ext 4. or email PACD@ArtsFoundTucson.Org at least 2 business days in advance.

Links

- Serving on a City of Tucson [Board, Committee & Commission](#) is one way that Tucson’s residents can participate in local government. Boards and Commissions typically serve in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and Council. Tucson benefits from the knowledge and expertise that volunteers bring to these Boards and Commissions.

- The [Public Art and Community Design Committee \(PACD\)](#) is a standing committee of the Arts Foundation that functions as an interagency committee operating in compliance with Boards and Commissions.
- The City of Tucson uses [Administrative Directives 7.01-1 through 7.01-7](#) to implement the City's Public Art Program.
- Pima County uses the [Board of Supervisors Policy C 3.3 and Administrative Procedures 3-16](#) for the implementation of the Pima County Public Art Program.