



Quincy Public Art Commission
Monday, September 2, 2025
730 Maine, City Hall, council chambers, Quincy, Illinois 62301

MINUTES

Attendance

Members Present: Madison Peters (GREDF), Maggie Strong (at-large/chair), Holly Cain (Convention and Visitors Bureau), Brianna Rivera (The District), Elizabeth Swick (Quincy Art Center), Bret Austin (Adams County Board), Rome Frericks (Park District).

Members Absent: Laura Bergman (at-large), Ben Uzelac (alderman), Kelli Langston (at-large), Linda Moore (mayor), Bruce Guthrie (Chamber of Commerce).

Staff Present: Jason Parrott, David Adam.

Vacant: 1 (Arts Quincy).

Strong calls the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Frericks makes motion to approve minutes from July 7. Austin seconds. Motion unanimously carries.

Parrott says the only current vacancy on the commission is a spot reserved for Arts Quincy. He has not heard from that organization about plans to fill that vacancy. Parrott says he will talk with the mayor about how to handle the Arts Quincy vacancy. He said the commission's goal should be to be fully functional and not have a perpetual vacancy. Strong says she will reach out to Uzelac, who has missed the past two meetings.

Strong introduces an invoice from Jennifer Bock-Nelson for \$1,900 for 28 hours of labor for the repair of a 5,000-square-foot focus mural, which is 12 years old. Austin says \$2,300 was spent on masonry, plaster work and a better base coating. Strong says the public art fund has approximately \$10,000. Parrott says he will put the information on a form to see if the payment can be made directly to Bock-Nelson or if it must be approved by the City Council.

Langston then joins the meeting by phone. Strong asks for a motion to use public art funds to pay Bock-Nelson. Swick makes a motion, and Cain seconds. Motion unanimously carries. Austin says Bock-Nelson will change the invoice and re-submit it to the city, removing his name from it.

Parrott tells the commission that he and Strong recently received an email with concept images from the Silhouette Shoppe about adding a mural to the south wall of the business at 117 N. Sixth. He says he plans to speak to the owners of the business, explaining the process and the lack of city funding. He says the business owners have reached out to three artists and filled out an interest form online. Strong says she will reach out to the business owners to talk about fundraising opportunities.

Strong says the Community Foundation now has a funding mechanism in place to receive money for the mural at 114 N. Sixth, with a goal of \$17,000 to \$18,000, and she also has letters ready to be sent to

people to donate to public art. Parrott discusses the cost for a plaque at the Art Center, which cost about \$750 last year. Strong said a plaque at Horizons for another mural cost about \$1,600.

Austin mentions the ghost mural project and the need for someone to spearhead it. He also mentions a possible mural on the future wellness building (the former Wright's Furniture site), now owned by Sam Dancer. He says that once had been planned as the site of a Welcome to Quincy wall. Austin says he also talked with people about a mural on the water plant wall on the riverfront.

Swick says the Art Center currently is offering the Joe Conover retrospective. Parrott says the mayor is still working on the flag project near the Villa Kathrine.

With no public comment and no further discussion, Frericks makes a motion to adjourn. Austin seconds. Motion unanimously carries. The meeting adjourns at 12:31 p.m.

David Adam, Commission Secretary
Community Planner and Developer, City of Quincy