

City of Norcross

65 Lawrenceville Street

Norcross, GA 30071



Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

6:30 PM

2nd Floor Conference Room

Norcross Public Arts Commission

Chair Elizabeth Simpson
Board Member Samantha Spitzner
Board Member Robert Forro
Board Member Jacques Murphy
Board Member Nicole Morgan
Board Member Michael MacManus

A. Call to Order by Chair Elizabeth Simpson (Roll Call)

Please silence cell phones and electronic devices.

B. Approval of Minutes:

Approval of the February 24, Norcross Public Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

NPAC Meeting Minutes 2.24.2026

C. Citizen Input:**D. Treasurer's Report – Mike/Jacques 10 minutes****E. Board Updates - 15 minutes**

- o Social Media – Samantha
- o Tree Board update – Arbor Day tree craft @ Pinnacle Park – TBD
- o Discovery Gardens – Mosaic for backboard art, Ribbon Cutting for expansion garden in May

F. Council Updates:

- Open Board Seat status
- NPAC Update to Council – April 20th

G. Returning Agenda Items:

1. **25-7251: Norcross Forever Stamp Program**
 - o 2025 Gwinnett Creativity grant status - Jacques
 - o Installation update - Mike

2. **2025-346: Framed Art Display in City Hall 10 mins - Liz**

Norcross Public Works will install hanging kit plus actual hanging

 - Trains , Hispanic Heritage, Jazz in the Alley

3. **25-7252: White Squirrels of Norcross 15 minutes - Liz**
 - Ordered NGS & DGP poles
 - Approval to order 3 new poses - \$9,450.00
 - Approval to order 1 additional pose @ \$3,150
 - Approval to order remaining duplicates 5 @ \$1,200 - \$6,000.00
 - Actual installations
 - Reception and ribbon cuttings (2 opportunities)

Attachments:

1. Top Names - Voting Results

-
- 4. 25-7369: White Squirrels of Norcross Fundraiser - 5 minutes**
- Settle the tax questions with Norcross Finance and reconcile donations/deposits
 - Squirrel (marble composite) order 3 from Cherrylion - \$1,125.00

Attachments:

1. WSN Acorn Sales Spreadsheet

- 5. 2025-345: Gwinnett Creativity Fund Grant Opportunity 10 Minutes - Jacques**
- Grant AWARDED!!
- Greetings from Norcross Mural spin-off engagements
- A. Provide kids coloring mats for restaurants, including crayons
 - B. Create postcards suitable for mailing (welcome center, retail shops)
 - C. Approval to allocate \$1,525 (or \$2,000) instead of the \$875

- 6. 2026-75: Norcross Forever Stamp books - 10 minutes**
- a. Begin design ideas
 - i. Set of stickers (all 10 light boxes)
 - ii. 1 stamp booklet with holding spots for 10 boxes
 - b. Submit design to Accent Creative
 - c. Get printing quotes/turnaround time

- 7. 2026-78: PG&T Board update – City Hall parking design and Heritage Park 10 minutes — Liz**
- d. Themes: Tree City. Community
 - e. Location: New City Hall parking with Heritage Park in mind

H. New Agenda Items:

- 1. 2026-111: Grant submission for 2026 Gwinnett Creativity Placemaking Fund**
- 2. 2026-119: 2027 Project Planning and Budget Considerations**

I. Additional Input/Discussion Not Otherwise Addressed By This Agenda:

J. Adjourn Motion

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Board Member Nicole Morgan
Board Member Michael MacManus

A. Call to Order at 6:30 pm by Chair Elizabeth Simpson (Roll Call)

Please silence cell phones and electronic devices.

B. Approval of Minutes:

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] 6-0
MOVER: Nicole Morgan, Board Member
SECONDER: Jacques Murphy, Board Member
AYES: Simpson, Forro, MacManus, Morgan, Murphy, Spitzner

A motion to approve the Norcross Public Arts Commission January 27, 2026, meeting minutes

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Elizabeth Simpson	Chair	Present	
Jacques Murphy	Vice Chair	Present	
Michael MacManus	Board member	Present	
Nicole Morgan	Board member	Present	
Robert Foro	Board member	Present	
Samantha Spitzner	Board member	Present	

C. Citizen Input:

None

D. Treasurer’s Report – Mike/Jacques

Limited update. \$1600 current total. 3 squirrels sold. Expect the next month's update. The next update will include a separate line item for donations. \$20 owed to Liz for the resident's donation.

E. Board Updates

- o Bylaws Adoption – The bylaws are currently under review with Eric and Tracy. A red-lined copy will be sent once finalized. Eric and Tracy also suggested the March policy for presentation to the Mayor and Council.
- o Social Media updates, newsletter, & Valentine engagement – Samantha
 13 followers on Instagram. Good publicity with Liz's interview. NPAC should connect quarterly with the team to share information (ATL Best Media, My Norcross, Rough Draft). Glad to connect on social media with short recordings. Consider sharing something for St. Patrick's Day. The Valentine's Cards were shared in the FLAG (Free Little Art Gallery) boxes and at 45 South and Savage.
- o Grant submission completed — Jacques
 No news yet on the 'Welcome to Norcross' mural placemats or postcards.
- o Tree Board update by Liz
 NPAC is asked to join the Arbor Day tree craft at Pinnacle Park around April 24. NPAC is interested in learning more. Is this event for adults or children? We have a couple of ideas, like a leaf collection activity or tree branch painting.
- o Discovery Gardens – Liz
 10-year anniversary – Celebration planned. Consider a mosaic. They'd like for NPAC to find an artist for the event (Fall). Would Mike be able to assist with this process?

F. Council Updates:

- Sales Tax – per Eric, we need to charge sales tax on the fundraiser items. Liz will work with Eric to determine the sales tax. This amount will be embedded in the cost of the donation; the donation amounts for purchasing a squirrel or an acorn will not change.

G. New Agenda Items:**1. 2026-75: Norcross Forever Stamp books - 10 minutes**

Need cost estimates for the stickers. Samantha and Nicole are working on the narrative for the books. Considering some trivia questions to make the book more engaging and interactive. Robert wondered if restaurants would participate with a “voucher” or a coupon. How do we keep this ‘stamp collecting program’ alive? Can we extend this into the White Squirrel project?

2. 2026-78: PT&G Board update – City Hall parking design and Heritage Park 10 minutes

\$1.5 million project. The city requests our help. NPAC will collaborate with the Parks, Trails, and Greenspace Commission. NPAC needs ~4-5% of the overall budget for art activities. The goal is to increase foot traffic. Heritage Park needs an art installation. Perhaps an archway? What would the placement be? NPAC will work through placement, as there are no final designs regarding the parking. Proper art installation makes people feel safe.

**3. 2026-79: Gwinnett Placemaking Grant Opportunity 10 minutes Jacques
- Project ideation kick off**

This is the moment for ideas. The application deadline is May 15th. The organization will award the funds on approximately June 15th. This idea needs to be executed by November 26th. It would be best if the project details were pre-approved.

H. Returning Agenda Items:**1. 2025-295: Porchfest 2025 15 minutes - Nicole**

NPAC cannot be involved in Porchfest. As a group commissioned by the City of Norcross, NPAC cannot participate either. Individually, NPAC members may volunteer. Careful of the number of NPAC members participating in the same volunteer activity. Norcross Porchfest is seeking individuals to review the Porch Decorating Contest.

2. 25-7251: Norcross Forever Stamp Program 15 minutes - Mike

- o 2025 Gwinnett Creativity grant is extended to March 12th, 2026. We're unlikely to make this deadline. However, NPAC will provide the results once the project is concluded.
- o Vinyl wraps modifications completed by Accent Creative
- o Installation – planning - Need 4-5 warm weather days in a row
 - 1st box – Holcomb Bridge and West Peachtree
 - 2nd box – Holcombe Bridge and Atlantic

3. 2025-346: Framed Art Display in City Hall 10 minutes - Mike

Quoting based on these sizes: Skinny 24W x 48L, Wide 30W x 48L. Norcross Public Works will install the hanging kit plus the actual hanging. Working with Accent Creative. Mike is being very careful regarding the size of the art relative to the art design. Planned to have 12 to display.

4. 25-7252: White Squirrels of Norcross 15 minutes - Liz

Connected Marty with Len Housley re: NGS pole. Actual installations: April 6-10. What about the ribbon cutting? How many can we install in one day? Potential reception at the Norcross Gallery. White Squirrel names will be featured on social media in March.

5. 25-7369: White Squirrels of Norcross Fundraiser - 10 minutes

- Acorn (marble composite) - \$200
- Squirrel (marble composite) – -\$800

3 sold. NPAC needs one item we can show to potential supporters. It takes 4 weeks to make a squirrel.

6. 2025-345: Gwinnett Creativity Fund Grant Opportunity - 5 minutes

Previously discussed during the Norcross Forever Stamp Program discussion.

I. Additional Input/Discussion Not Otherwise Addressed By This Agenda:

None

J. Adjourn Motion

Jacques Murphy motioned to adjourn the meeting to executive session at 8:30 for personnel seconded by Mike McManus. The vote was unanimous, 6-0.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	THRASHER PARK	BETTY MAULDIN PARK	DISCOVERY GARDEN PARK	LILLIAN WEBB PARK	NORCROSS GALLERY & STUDIOS	(Any Location)	Is there anything else
2		Casper	Yeti			Marshmallow	
3	JJ for John J Thrasher "Cousin John", founder and first mayor of Norcross	Betty	Debbie for one of the founders, Deb Hawkins	Lily	Artie	Dee for Ardilla Blanca	
4	Casper	Snowflake	Powder	Polar	Chalky	Ghost	
5	Choo-Choo	Elm-er	Carrot	Splash	Paintbrush	Boxcar, Painter, Brushy, Canvas, Popcorn	Use a theme for each location -- Thrasher is next to the train tracks, Norcross Gallery should have a painting theme, what do they grow at Discovery Garden
6	Mayor marshmallow.	Deputy nut cracker	Sergeant Snow	Miss fluffington.	Snowbi won Kenobi		
7	Ivory	Milk	Snowball	Ghost	Dumpling		There's another white squirrel on Autry street across from Rosie Brundage Park
8	Squirky						
9	Ivory	Hudsy	Starry	Felicity	Brielle	Basting, Petula, Roadie, Wrecker, Splinter, Buzzer, Boogie, Bingo, Bolt, Trickcee, Nutsy	Hope you pick a couple of my names, thanks for including me.
10	Joy	Fluffy	Wonder	Sunset	Fluffy	Chalky, Star, blanket,bouncy	
11	Caboose	Daffodil	Mater	Homer in honor of the baseball heritage there	Kudzu(because of the original name of the gallery)	Casper (in honor of our ghost tours), Thrasher, Leo (in honor of Lionheart Theatre)	
12	Doublecross	Crosstie	Redcross	Kriscross	Crosswalk	Motocross	
13	Frosty	Pearl	Cotton	Blizzard	Casper	Snowball	2 more white squirrels by Autry St.
14	Blanco	Betty white	True	Snowy	Picasso	Pearly, Lacey, Annie, Barrett	Love this!
15	Bernardo	Bernardo	Bernardo	Bernardo	Bernardo	Scrappy Steve, Eleanor, Bruce	Please name one of them Bernardo
16	Olivia Bowdoin	Gandalf	Frodo	Bilbo	Sam	Gollum	I think it would be cute / funny if you made up an elaborate "origin story" of how they came to Norcross and what their quest is

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
17	• Ardilla: (pronounced ar-DEE-yah) is the standard and most common word for squirrel in Spanish.	Zeke means squirrel in Cajun french	Zeke or Zeki a Biblical name "God will Strengthen"				
18	Ollie	Gene	Ivy	Lily	Ludie	Oliver	
19						Moby dick	I think we should have Moby dick quotes with the white squirrel sculptures
20	Bernardo	Bernardo	Bernardo	Bernardo	Bernardo		
21						John (Thrasher), Johnathan (Norcross), Tom (Jones), Arch (Lietch), Ed (Buchanan)	
22						Frank, Dean, Sammy, Peter, Joey	
23	Brutus	Bartholomew	Bertha	Beavus	Barney	Betty	
24	Buster	Rocky	Eli	Amelia	Juan		
25	Dasher	Jazzy	Sprout	Nutmeg	Matisse	Squirrely Temple	Such a cute project!
26	Bianca	Betty	Pearl	Shiro	Edelweiss	Casper	
27	Jonathan	Betty	Disco	Lillian	Gal	Fred	
28		Betty		Lillian		Women's names - particularly those from another era - Eleanor, Lydia, Bessie	I think this a cute idea. I love downtown norcross
29	Squirrely Fries	Squirrely Fries	Squirrely Fries	Squirrely Fries	Squirrely Fries	Squirrely Fries	
30	Teddy (Theodore)	Betty	Eddy (educational)	Letty (Leisure)	Arty		
31						As a group name, the knights in white satin	
32	Blanca	Acorn	Flora	Estrella	Frida		
33	Dasher	Squeaky	Casper	Crystal	Luna	Q-tip, Cotton , Dogwood, Georgia, Grits,	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
34	Nicky Norcross	Betty Parks	Billy Bits	Nutsy Magoo	Sweetness		
35	Professor Cottontop	Wisp	Oscar	Fluffernutter	Sebastian	P. Nutt	This is a cool idea! Thanks for doing it!
36	Theodore	Penelope	Ferdinand	Sarah	Vincent	Alvin	
37	Brunswick (for the former Inn)	Elmer (for the champion elm tree)	Darwin	Lilly	Picasso	Scrat	
38	Dash	Pearl	Whisper or Sage	Gatsby	Sketch	Sprig, Mochi, Willow, Petal	
39	Nuts Buchanan	Jazzy Tails	P. Nut Butter	Squirrel Heart			
40	Valentin	Leti	Joseph	Shadow	Margie	JJ	
41	Chubbs	Robert	Cacahuete	Robert	Gillian		
42	Casper	Betty's Biscuit					
43					Vince		
44	Ash	Betty White	Lola	Lily	Blanca	Winter	
45	Stasher	Milky	Cheeky	Nutty	Snowy	Squeaky	
46	Nuts McGee	Krispin	Cheeky Monkey	Noodles	Num-Nums	Chubbs	
47	Fluffernutter	Casper	Blanche	Snowflake	Sugar	Albie	
48	Martin	Bestie	Tixie	Luther	Lilac	I think the Norcross mascot should be a white squirrel! I've spotted white squirrels dozens of times in Norcross and I have several pics and videos of them too! You could get a mascot costume of a white squirrel for special events! 😊	Norcross mascot = white squirrel

Name	Location		Nicole	Mike	Liz	Robert	Samantha	Jacques
Fluffy								
Sugar								
Cross Tie								
Snobie Wan Kenobi								
Snowflake								
Georgia								
Betty	Betty Mauldin			*	*			
Elmer	Betty Mauldin							
Jazzy / Jazzmine	Betty Mauldin							
Pearl	Betty Mauldin		*					
JJ (Thrasher)	Thrasher							
Jonathan (Norcross)	Thrasher		*	*	*			
NorX	Thrasher							
Brunswick	Thrasher							
Blanco	Webb		*	*				
Homer	Webb				*			
Lilly	Webb							
Snowball	Webb							

