

City of Norcross

65 Lawrenceville Street

Norcross, GA 30071



Meeting Minutes

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) at 6:33 pm

Please silence cell phones and electronic devices.

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	

B. Approval of Minutes:

Approval of the February 24, 2026, meeting minutes was postponed until the April 28 regular meeting.

C. Citizen Input:

None

D. Treasurer's Report – Mike/Jacques 10 minutes

None

E. Board Updates - 15 minutes**Social Media — Samantha**

An update on the Squirrels project has been posted, and updates on the Forever Stamp will be shared soon.

Tree Board update - Arbor Day tree craft at Pinnacle Park - TBD

This celebration has been postponed. The Tree Board has received NPAC's ideas and will determine its own course of action moving forward.

Discovery Gardens – Mosaic for backboard art, Ribbon Cutting for expansion garden in May

Discovery Gardens is currently undergoing an expansion project, with a ribbon-cutting planned for May. NPAC would like to know whether the Discovery Garden squirrel installation could be completed by the end of the expansion. If so, is it possible for NPAC and Discovery Gardens to hold a joint ribbon-cutting ceremony?

F. Council Updates:**Open Board Seat status**

The City Council will vote to confirm Angela Faustina to NPAC.

NPAC Update to Council – April 20th

Liz was asked to report to the City Council on NPAC's work.

G. Returning Agenda Items:**1. 25-7251: Norcross Forever Stamp Program**

The 2025 Gwinnett Creativity Grant was extended to March 31st. The final report was ready for submission to Gwinnett Creativity on March 20th. Ribbon Cutting was scheduled for March 31st, allowing more pictures and a press release to be added to the final report.

A motion to set aside \$5000 for stamp-collecting books and stamps for the NFS collection add-on initiative.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] 6-0

MOVER: Mike McManus, Board Member

SECONDER: Jacques Murphy, Board Member

AYES: Simpson, McManus, Murphy, Spitzner, Morgan, Foro

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

Norcross Council is dissatisfied with A1 Signs' cost estimate for creating the artwork. NPAC should consider scaling down the installation, as the city is aiming to spend approximately \$300 per piece.

3. 25-7252: White Squirrels of Norcross 15 minutes - Liz

The White Squirrels are delayed because the patina is not white enough, according to the provider. NPAC will not have a ribbon-cutting until a White Squirrel is received.

There were 20 responses to the survey. We need to emphasize to the public that they are making recommendations, not choosing a name. We can conduct an additional survey. It was recommended that during public comment at a City Council meeting, an NPAC member inform the community about the survey and where to find it.

A motion to approve the purchase of 3 new poses for bronze squirrel sculptures, at \$9,450 to Cherrylion Studios.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] 6-0

MOVER: Liz Simpson, Chair

SECONDER: Jacques Murphy, Board Member

AYES: Simpson, McManus, Murphy, Spitzner, Morgan, Foro

A motion to approve the purchase of an additional pose for the bronze squirrel sculpture from Cherrylion Studios at \$3,150.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] 6-0

MOVER: Robert Foro, Board Member

SECONDER: Samantha Spitzner, Board Member

AYES: Simpson, McManus, Murphy, Spitzner, Morgan, Foro

4. 25-7369: White Squirrels of Norcross Fundraiser - 5 minutes

NPAC needs a squirrel example to present to the public. It's also important to communicate that donations should be designated as unrestricted funds—contributions to the Squirrel Project are not limited solely to that initiative.

A motion to approve the purchase of 3 composite marble squirrels from Cherrylion Studios for \$1,125.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] 6-0

MOVER: Robert Foro, Board Member

SECONDER: Samantha Spitzner, Board Member

AYES: Simpson, McManus, Murphy, Spitzner, Morgan, Foro

5. 2025-345: Gwinnett Creativity Fund Grant Opportunity 10 Minutes - Jacques

NPAC has received \$2,000 from the Gwinnett Creativity.

A motion to approve the allocation of set-aside matching funds for this project in the amount of up to \$2,000.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] 6-0

MOVER: Jacques Murphy, Board Member

SECONDER: Samantha Spitzner, Board Member

AYES: Simpson, McManus, Murphy, Spitzner, Morgan, Foro

6. 2026-75: Norcross Forever Stamp books – 10 minutes

Mike and Samantha are working on the booklet, and Nicole and Samantha have also collaborated to brainstorm ideas. A budget of \$5,000 is proposed for the booklet.

The booklet information has been submitted to the Gwinnett Creativity Fund. Quotes and a completion timeline are still needed.

7. 2026-78: PG&T Board update – City Hall parking design and Heritage Park 10 minutes — Liz

The city has not had any further discussions on this matter. NPAC is interested in supporting the project but needs additional details. What is the intended purpose of Heritage Park—is it meant for events or primarily for art viewing? Additionally, is special lighting required for the space?

H. New Agenda Items:**1. 2026-111: Grant submission for 2026 Gwinnett Creativity Placemaking Fund**

Jacques asked the team to propose ideas for a new placemaking grant application. NPAC discussed expanding the White Squirrels of Norcross project and exploring opportunities at Pinnacle Park. Mike suggested a mural at Beaver Ruin, noting that the wall is approximately 888 feet long and relatively low. Liz expressed interest in the public library wall and will work to identify its ownership.

2. 2026-119: 2027 Project Planning and Budget Considerations

There was some discussion about the Public Safety building. A “moss wall” had previously been considered for that location, but there is currently no momentum with the city to support art installations in the facility.

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

There was some discussion about starting meetings earlier, possibly at 6:00 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m.

Liz also inquired about Rough Draft Atlanta and how to receive those communications.

J. Adjourn Motion

Nicole Morgan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm, seconded by Mike McManus. The vote was unanimous, 6-0.