

City of Norcross

65 Lawrenceville Street
Norcross, GA 30071



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

6:30 PM

2nd Floor Conference Room

Norcross Public Arts Commission

Chair Elizabeth Simpson

Board Member Yamily Mijes-O'Reilly

Board Member Nicole Morgan

Board Member Robert Forro

Board Member Jacques Murphy

Board Member Michael MacManus

A. Call to Order by Chair Elizabeth Simpson

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Elizabeth Simpson	Chair	Present	
Yamily Mijes-O'Reilly	Board Member	Present	
Nicole Morgan	Board Member	Absent	
Robert Forro	Board Member	Present	
Jacques Murphy	Board Member	Present	
Michael MacManus	Board Member	Present	

Norcross Public Arts Commission was called to order at 6:39 PM by Chair Elizabeth Simpson

B. Approval of Previous Minutes**1. Norcross Public Arts Commission – Regular Meeting - Jan 28, 2025 6:30 PM**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jacques Murphy, Board Member
SECONDER:	Michael MacManus, Board Member
AYES:	Simpson, Mijes-O'Reilly, Forro, Murphy, MacManus
ABSENT:	Nicole Morgan

2. Norcross Public Arts Commission - Visioning Session - Feb 13, 2025 5:00 PM

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jacques Murphy, Board Member
SECONDER:	Michael MacManus, Board Member
AYES:	Simpson, Mijes-O'Reilly, Forro, Murphy, MacManus
ABSENT:	Nicole Morgan

3. Norcross Public Arts Commission – Regular Meeting - Feb 25, 2025 6:30 PM

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jacques Murphy, Board Member
SECONDER:	Michael MacManus, Board Member
AYES:	Simpson, Mijes-O'Reilly, Forro, Murphy, MacManus
ABSENT:	Nicole Morgan

4. Norcross Public Arts Commission – Regular Meeting - Mar 25, 2025 6:30 PM

Amendment to Treasurer's Report: Updated the fiscal year-end date to August 31, 2025.

RESULT:	ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jacques Murphy, Board Member
SECONDER:	Michael MacManus, Board Member
AYES:	Simpson, Mijes-O'Reilly, Forro, Murphy, MacManus
ABSENT:	Nicole Morgan

C. Citizen Input

* None

D. Treasurer's Report

* Presented by Treasurer/Board Member Yamily Mijes-O'Reilly.

E. Board Updates

- * The board will begin setting time limits for each agenda item to ensure that sufficient time is allocated to every discussion topic.

F. Council Updates

- * None.

G. Returning Agenda Items**1. 25-7235: Wooden Fence by the Crossing (Dumpster Enclosure)**

- * The City is currently assessing how to address the issue of keeping the fence closed and has plans to replace the fence due to its dilapidated condition. NPAC will revisit this item once a timeline for the installation of the new fence is confirmed.

RESULT:	TABLED SENT TO [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 5/27/2025 6:30 PM
TO:	Norcross Public Arts Commission
MOVER:	Jacques Murphy, Board Member
SECONDER:	Michael MacManus, Board Member
AYES:	Simpson, Mijes-O'Reilly, Forro, Murphy, MacManus
ABSENT:	Nicole Morgan

2. 25-7251: Norcross Forever Stamp Program

- * The board discussed the process for drafting an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City and Gwinnett County to ensure that maintenance of the utility boxes remains the City's responsibility. Shayla will provide a template and coordinate with the City attorney.
- * The board reviewed the zone presentation prepared by Mike and selected the first set of zones to focus on for Phase One:
 1. North Peachtree Street & Reys Miller Road
 2. Beaver Ruin Road & Pinnacle Way
 3. Buford Highway & Holcomb Bridge Road
 4. Atlantic Boulevard & Holcomb Bridge Road
 5. Mitchell Road & Price Place
- * The board will consult the vendor regarding cost, best practices, and logistics to determine how many sides of the utility boxes should be wrapped.
- * This item is scheduled to go before the Mayor and Council for presentation at the May 19 Policy Work Session. Liz and Mike will work together offline to get everything together for the presentation to Council.

RESULT:	THIS MATTER WAS REFERRED TO
	Next: 5/27/2025 6:30 PM
TO:	Norcross Public Arts Commission

3. 25-7238: Maintenance of Metal Sculpture "Grasshopper"

- * Items 3 and 4, Maintenance of Metal Sculptures, will be merged into a single item due to their similarity in execution.
- * The City will assist with refurbishing the metal sculptures of George and Mantis ("Grasshopper") by attempting to remove surface rust. If needed, the next step will be to paint the sculptures, and volunteers may be solicited to assist.

RESULT: THIS MATTER WAS REFERRED TO**Next: 5/27/2025 6:30 PM****TO: Norcross Public Arts Commission****4. 25-7239: Maintenance of Metal Sculpture "George"**

- * Please refer to item #3, as items 3 and 4 have now been merged.

RESULT: DISCUSSED**5. 24-6914: Location and Installation of Free Little Art Gallery (Paul Duke)**

- * Items 5 and 6 have been merged into one due to their similarity in execution.
- * The board selected the installation locations for the Free Little Art Galleries—one donated by Paul Duke and the other by Yamily—at the Rectory and Norcross Gallery & Studios. Both sites are conveniently located near areas where the board and NGS can effectively maintain and monitor the galleries.
- * The board will provide the contents and does not anticipate costs exceeding \$500 for the fiscal year. A budget amendment will be necessary to accommodate this expense. This fiscal year will serve as a trial period for the project.

RESULT: DISCUSSED**6. 25-7278: Free Little Art Gallery (Donated by Yamily)**

- * Please refer to item #5, as items 5 and 6 have now been merged.

RESULT: DISCUSSED**7. 25-7277: Art Exhibit at Rectory Sponsored by NG&S - Norcross HS & Paul Duke HS – May**

- * The board discussed donating a tangible item to the contest instead of a monetary donation. They considered a gift basket of art supplies valued at no more than \$100. Shayla will seek final approval from the City Manager.

Motion

A motion to approve NPAC's donation of a gift basket of art supplies, valued at no more than \$100, to the Norcross Gallery and Studios' Reflections of Art Exhibit at the Rectory, pending approval by the City Manager.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**MOVER:** Jacques Murphy, Board Member**SECONDER:** Michael MacManus, Board Member**AYES:** Simpson, Mijes-O'Reilly, Forro, Murphy, MacManus**ABSENT:** Nicole Morgan

8. **25-7252: Scavenger Hunt**

- * The white squirrel has received significant public interest as the official mascot for the Scavenger Hunt, with enthusiastic support from both the community and several Councilmembers. The board will evaluate the cost and logistical details gathered by Mike to assess the feasibility of the initial installations.
- * The project will be implemented in phases, with each squirrel featuring a unique name and narrative inspired by its specific location, adding a creative and place-based storytelling element to the initiative. The board will continue discussions regarding locations as well.

RESULT: THIS MATTER WAS REFERRED TO

Next: 5/27/2025 6:30 PM

TO: Norcross Public Arts Commission

H. **New Agenda Items**

1. **25-7303: NPAC Sponsorship of Norcross Gallery and Studios Photo Contest – “Bees to Trees”**

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. **25-7304: Gwinnett Creativity Fund – New Placemaking Grant Cycle**

- * Jacques introduced the Gwinnett Placemaking Grant. The board agreed to pursue the grant, focusing on the Norcross Forever Stamp initiative. Jacques will lead the preparation and submission of the application, with Shayla coordinating all City-related components. The board acknowledged that the submission window is tight but manageable. If awarded, the grant will cover 75% of the project cost, with NPAC responsible for a 25% match.
- * Liz, Shayla, and Jacques will meet with the Grant Administrator from Gwinnett Creativity Fund on Friday at 11 a.m. to discuss the grant and address any questions before submission.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. **25-7305: Visioning Session Schedule Review**

- * The board agreed that the list presented by Purpose Possible should be revised to focus on initiatives that NPAC can realistically accomplish. Several items are outside NPAC’s jurisdiction or may not be feasible at this time. Refining the list will make it a more practical and effective tool for the board. The board tabled this item to be revisited at the May regular meeting.

RESULT: TABLED SENT TO [UNANIMOUS]

Next: 5/27/2025 6:30 PM

TO: Norcross Public Arts Commission

MOVER: Michael MacManus, Board Member

SECONDER: Jacques Murphy, Board Member

AYES: Simpson, Mijes-O'Reilly, Forro, Murphy, MacManus

ABSENT: Nicole Morgan

I. **Additional Input/Discussion Not Otherwise Addressed by this Agenda**

J. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM following a motion to adjourn by Liz, seconded by Mike.

K. Signed By: _____ **Elizabeth Simpson, Chair**

L. Attested By: _____ **Shayla Alexis, Deputy City Clerk**