

City of Norcross

65 Lawrenceville Street
Norcross, GA 30071



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 10, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

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

Special Called Meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM by Chair Elizabeth Simpson

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

B. Returning Agenda Items

1. 25-7251: Norcross Forever Stamp Program

a. Style and Design

Guest Presenter Nicole Newsom from Accent Creative Group (ACG) provided a presentation of how ACG works with the City of Norcross (CoN) and what support ACG can provide to NPAC. ACG is an outsource for the CoN allocating ~120 hours/month. Recommendation is that NPAC focus on “essence of Norcross” and using the art to reflect a “sense of place.” Norcross is described as bold, vibrant, bright, historic, modern, welcoming, charming, engaged and vibrant modern. Best practices include treating all the boxes consistently.

We were shown several different “treatments:”

Style 1: Original photograph

Style 2: Monochrome

Style 3: “Paint-by-Numbers” where photos are converted to graphics

Style 4: Patterned sides

Style 5: Painted realism

Style 6: French Vintage Jazz Effect

NPAC can use the CoN photobank as these photos are already owned by the City. As owned photos the City already has rights to manipulate the images. ACG currently has 30 hours available for NPAC immediate usage.

b. IGA Update

There is no movement on the IGA. Continuing to work with Len Housley (Director of Public Works).

c. Legal Permissions

Currently reviewing the legal agreements used by Norcross Gallery. The City of Norcross (CoN) Legal Team is reviewing the documents. If this document covers NPAC and/or City of Norcross to use the forms, then will easily proceed. If not, documents will be modified and artists contacted. Would like to have this finalized in the next 2 weeks.

d. Board Members as Artists

Discussion regarding if NPAC desires to limit the number of artworks submitted by Board Members. General conversation included Board Members’ participation in submitting artwork for consideration. NPAC recognizes the need to have a policy for Members’ participation. Members who submit art for consideration will should be considered alongside other artists’ submitted work. The Member should abstain from participating in the voting which directly affects their inclusion. NPAC also spoke about any member’s influence to repeatedly present an artist or concept.

ITEM TASKS:

- Mike - continue to create and work with ACG at your discretion; Yamily - designing the 'Hispanic box';
- Jacques - Waffle House box, Norcross Hollywood Box;
- Liz - taking on a currently unassigned box;
- Robert - committed to 2 boxes;
- Nicole - draft bylaws of Members participating as Artists;
- Liz/Shayla - legal documents for artists.
- Shayla - consult further with legal to answer specific questions around the per box vs full project

RESULT:	THIS MATTER WAS REFERRED TO
	Next: 7/29/2025 6:30 PM
TO:	Norcross Public Arts Commission

2. 25-7252: White Squirrels of Norcross

a. Fundraising

Consider selling 'model' squirrels to local businesses. Squirrels made of hydrocal will cost \$75/each or squirrels made of resin cost \$145/each. We could sell 'model' squirrels at \$350 each. Could we work with Antique Traditions or Freckles to sell the squirrel replicas to the public?

b. Pose of Squirrels

The squirrel pose choices are A, B, C. The group discussed each pose with members selecting the initial poses to be B and C. Some comments mentioned choice A is too close to looking like a rat.

RESULT:	THIS MATTER WAS REFERRED TO
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C. Additional Input/Discussion Not Otherwise Addressed By This Agenda

- Jacques shared NPAC was awarded \$10,000.
- We need to complete 5 boxes by AUGUST 31, 2025; 10 boxes completed by November 15 2025.
- A citizen named Samantha attended the NPAC meeting. She previously applied to be an NPAC member. Also Anne from Norcross Gallery attended a portion of the meeting.
- It is possible to complete an online community poll regarding the public's preferred style of stamp collecting art work.
- ACG can assist NPAC with creating an Artists' Repository.

D. Adjourn

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

F. Attest: _____ **Shayla Alexis, Deputy City Clerk**