

Philadelphia Art Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 10, 2024 - 9:30 AM

The Philadelphia Art
Commission
Established 1911

Robert Roesch
Chair

José Almiñana
Carmen Febo San Miguel
Matthew Kenyatta
James Lowe
Sarah McEneaney
Raed Nasser
Pepón Osorio
Mario Zacharjasz

Alex M. Smith
Director

Members Present: José Almiñana, Carmen Febo San Miguel, Raed Nasser, Pepón Osorio, Matthew Kenyatta, James Lowe, Sarah McEneaney, and Robert Roesch

MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA ART COMMISSION

Alex Smith – Director of the Art Commission – introduced the Zoom platform and remote Art Commission process, noting that the meeting is being recorded and those participating in the meeting are giving their consent to be recorded. A link to the recording, will be posted on the Art Commission website and the meeting agenda and materials can also be found on the website at:

(<https://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-commission/>).

*Mr. Smith polled the commission via roll call announcing a quorum, then stated a few instructions for the public. Members of the public may comment on agenda items during the meeting. When the agenda item that you are interested in is being discussed, you can use the “raise hand” feature and staff will unmute you during the public comment period. If you’re joining by phone, you can also use the hand raise feature by dialing *9 during the public comment period, and if you have any submitted comments through email, staff will read those emails out loud at the appropriate time. Thank you.*

Chairperson Roesch called the meeting to order at the mark in video (00:02:10).

REPORT OF THE SIGN & STREETERY COMMITTEE – MARCH 27, 2024

Sign Applications

Second Reviews:

- 1. 224-23**
Penn’s Landing Park – Signage and Wayfinding (DRWC)
Various locations
- 2. 231-23**
Tempur-Pedic
1713 Walnut Street
- 3. 45-24**
Mulherin’s
1102-48 Market Street

First Reviews:

- 1. 78-24**
Borromini
1805 Walnut Street

One Parkway Building
1515 Arch St., 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

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2. **79-24**
Glowbar
1701 Chestnut Street
3. **80-24**
Enjera Grocery
227 Market Street
4. **81-24**
Weaver
1901 York Street
5. **82-24**
Veterans Affairs Medical Center – Pedestrian Bridge Signage Update
3900 Woodland Avenue
6. **83-24**
William D. Kelley School
1601-49 N 28th Street
7. **84-24**
The Good Vibes Vault
650 South Street
8. **97-24**
Community College of Philadelphia
1700 Spring Garden Street

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Alex Smith provided the Commission with an update of the Tempur-Pedic project at 1713 Walnut Street. Staff recommendation is for approval of the project (00:02:50).

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Sign Committee and Streeter Committee from March 27, 2024 (00:03:17).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Osorio.

The vote was taken by consensus. Motion carried unanimously to approve (6-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

- 1. 103-24**
City Hall Courtyard Temporary Art – Civic Views
1400 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Review Type: Public Art located on City property
Project Details: Temporary public art installation
Applicant: Mural Arts Philadelphia

Mr. Smith presented two Administrative Items, which began with City Hall Courtyard Temporary Art – Civic Views and required a consensus vote on both administrative items (00:03:42).

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:04:07).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Osorio and seconded by Commissioner Nasser.

The vote was taken by consensus.

The Commission voted unanimously for administrative approval of the Temporary public art installation to City Hall Courtyard Temporary Art (7-0).

- 2. 104-24**
Indego IKE Smart City Kiosks
Various Locations (4)
Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way
Project Details: New Indego IKE Smart City Kiosk installations
Applicant: Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS) (on behalf of Office of Transportation, Infrastructure and Sustainability (OTIS))

Mr. Smith continued with the second administrative item, the Indego IKE Smart City Kiosks.

Questions and comments from the public (00:07:07).

Allison Weiss asked about accessibility of the kiosk and information, which was responded to by Nate Bowman-Johnston.

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:10:04).

Commissioner Lowe requested for the Commission be provided with a list of community organizations that will have view of the content going forward for each of the installations. Commissioner Nasser agreed with the comments and added specifications of the content. Commissioner Febo San Miguel commented on the vagueness of community engagement process and requested additional information. Commissioner

Almiñana inquired about lighting and wanted to know who pays for the utilities. Amanda Miller addressed the inquiries.

Dennis Boylan, of Logan Square Neighborhood Association stated that he looked forward to working with the project team about placement of kiosks in Logan Square.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:16:16).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Nasser.

The vote was taken by consensus.

The Commission voted unanimously for administrative approval of Indego IKE Smart City Kiosks (7-0).

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PRESENTATIONS FOR CONCEPT REVIEW

(continued from the March 13, 2024 meeting)

1. 69-24

Hunting Park Station ADA Improvements N Broad Street & Hunting Park Avenue

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: New ADA elevator and headhouse improvements

Applicant: SEPTA

Presenter: Michael Baker International

Ashley Spinrad introduced the project team, then provided a summary of the three projects beginning with Hunting Park Station followed by Wyoming Station and Logan Station for ADA Improvements (00:17:25).

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:30:27).

Chairperson Roesch inquired about the grout and noted preference for grey of white grout.

Commissioner Lowe inquired about the lack of illumination around the headhouse and commented on the design in terms of safety. Jack McElwee of SEPTA responded that adequate lighting would be added around the headhouse. Commissioner Almiñana commented on the rendering, types of proposed lighting, and the temperature of the lighting, and agreed with Commissioner Lowe's comment about the potential of darkness around the headhouse.

Chairperson Roesch suggested returning with night renderings and lighting analysis (00:39:22).

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Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:39:59).

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Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Almiñana.

Robert Roesch
Chair

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.

José Almiñana
Carmen Febo San Miguel
Matthew Kenyatta
James Lowe
Sarah McEneaney
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Mario Zacharjasz

The Commission voted unanimously to approve concept approval of the project, with a request to address Commissioner's comments (8-0).

Alex M. Smith
Director

2. 93-24

Wyoming Station ADA Improvements N Broad Street & Wyoming Avenue

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: New ADA elevator and headhouse improvements

Applicant: SEPTA

Presenter: Michael Baker International

Ms. Spinrad continued with the second presentation at the minute mark in video (00:41:52).

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:47:02).

Chairperson Roesch inquired about the similar lighting strategy at the Hunting Park Station.

Commissioner Almiñana commented on the rendering and interior lighting. Commissioner Febo San Miguel requested clarification of the rendering and the allocated space between the headhouse and the building within the adjacent parking lot. Commissioner Lowe spoke of the challenges and obligations of SEPTA and City regarding the surrounding lighting and utilities. Mr. Smith mentioned that he could try to coordinate with the Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems, as needed, moving forward.

Mr. Smith also noted for the record that the proposed signage and wayfinding weren't part of the current SEPTA reviews. Signage components of this work are under a separate process for review through the Sign and Streetery Committee (00:54:39).

Questions and comments from the Public (00:55:20).

Allison Weiss wanted to know if there was any effort to have structures be designed specific to the surrounding community that they're situated in, which was addressed by Ms. Spinrad.

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Chairperson Roesch mentioned that the Commission would like to see plans and details of the adjacent building and headhouse relationship, night renderings and lighting analysis (00:58:01).

Commissioner Lowe requested for more details and dimensions regarding the adjacent property and the headhouse and asked for SEPTA to coordinate with OTIS/Streets Dept. Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner McEneaney, and Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked about access, public right-of-way impacts, ADA compliance, and about the curved roof elements. A more accurate detailed rendering of this headhouse within context was requested.

Laura Antinucci, of the Philadelphia Law Department and Counsel to the Art Commission, clarified that SEPTA was only responsible for the street lighting attached to the headhouse and the immediate surrounding area. Anything outside of that, would be the Streets Department responsibility (01:06:45). Additional comments were made on the subject and boundaries by Commissioner Almiñana and Mr. McElwee, of the project team.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (01:09:44).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Kenyatta.

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve as concept approval, with a request to address Commissioner's comments (8-0).

3. 94-24

Logan Station ADA Improvements N Broad Street & Lindley Avenue

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: New ADA elevator and headhouse improvements

Applicant: SEPTA

Presenter: Michael Baker International

The next presentation was presented by Tim Yiu at the minute mark in video (01:10:50).

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:19:01).

Chairperson Roesch inquired about the existing guard rails, and Commissioner Lowe commented on the existing conditions, the addition of handrails, and requested a rendering of the proposal during the daytime.

Chairperson Roesch suggested returning with lighting, and consistency of renderings between applications (01:23:48).

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Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (01:24:20).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Febo San Miguel.

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve for concept approval, with a request to address Commissioner's comments (8-0).

4. 95-24

Lombard-South Station ADA Improvements S Broad Street & Lombard/South Streets

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: New ADA elevator and headhouse improvements

Applicant: SEPTA

Presenter: Jacobs

Matt Morong introduced the project team Brian Fitzhenry, Jack McElwee, and Sean McMahon and began the presentation for one of two projects beginning with Lombard-South Station ADA improvements (01:26:50).

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:40:18).

Commissioner Lowe raised questions about the lighting and suspended light fixtures.

Chairperson Roesch wanted to know about design of the proposed roof downspout. Brian Fitzhenry responded that the downspout would be eliminated. Commissioner Almiñana inquired about SEPTA's standard design and treatment of the headhouse ceiling for all locations along the BSL. Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked for a nighttime rendering. The Commissioner questions and comments were addressed by Mr. Morong. Discussion continued at the minute mark in video (01:46:04-01:54:30)

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (01:54:32).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner McEneaney.

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve for concept approval (8-0).

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5. 96-24

**Ellsworth-Federal Station ADA Improvements
S Broad Street & Ellsworth/Federal Streets**

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way
Project Details: New ADA elevator and headhouse improvements
Applicant: SEPTA
Presenter: Jacobs

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Mr. Morong continued with the final presentation of the second project, Ellsworth-Federal Station ADA improvements at the minute mark in video (01:55:22).

Questions and comments from the Commission (02:07:14).

Chairperson Roesch requested a detail of the hanging lanterns, when the project returns to the Commission.

Commissioner Lowe commented on the entrance gate at the platform area and sidewalk level, which was addressed by Sean McMahon. Discussion on the subject continued (02:09:45-02:12:57).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (02:13:06).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Febo San Miguel.

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve for concept approval (7-0).

PRESENTATIONS FOR FINAL REVIEW

1. 3-24

**Georges Hill Pump Station
S Georges Hill Drive**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property
Project Details: New pump station
Applicant: Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)
Presenter: HDR

Troy Belcher began the presentation at the minute mark in video (02:14:30).

Questions and comments from the Commission 02:26:16).

Commissioner McEneaney confirmed the One Percent for Art requirement.

Questions and comments from the Public (02:26:55).

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Allison Weiss expressed frustration with the removal of trees and the impact on wildlife and the natural environment. She noted that there needed to be a bigger effort to engage communities helping inform what goes on during public meetings.

Fred Stine clarified the point being made about clearing and eliminating the wooded areas, and the loss of wildlife habitat. Mr. Belcher responded to public comments and concerns.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (02:31:14).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Nasser.

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve for final approval (7-0).

**2. 64-24
Cobbs Creek Golf Club - Maintenance Buildings
7400 Lansdowne Avenue**

Review Type: Construction project located on City property
Project Details: New building construction and associated site improvements
Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR)
Presenter: Cobbs Creek Foundation

Donald Dissinger provided an overview of the project before presenting (02:32:37).

Enrique Hervada, of the project team mentioned that the unseen drainage was underneath the vehicles shown in the material storage rendering, but the pavement in that area where the washdown station is located, is sloped towards the drain to contain runoff, so the discharge would be separately drained from the stormwater system (02:43:23).

Questions and comments from the Commission (02:44:01).

Commissioner Almiñana expressed appreciation for the presentation made.

Questions and comments from the Public (02:44:25).

Fred Stine inquired about steep slopes around the reservoir, the perimeter and stormwater basin, and disposal for the wash down area. Ben Dewan provided a response to the comments and inquiries. The discussion on the subject and about the closed loop wash system continued.

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Allison Weiss asked about solar panels. Mr. Dissinger responded that they wouldn't be using solar panels at this location.

Commissioner Nasser wanted to know if research was done on the solar panels and if there was a cost benefit analysis.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or Public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (02:55:44).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner McEneaney.

Mr. Smith polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner McEneaney, Commissioner Osorio, and Chairperson Roesch.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve for final approval (6-0).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to adjourn (02:56:43).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Almiñana and seconded by Commissioner Osorio.

Motion carried with no nays to adjourn the April 10, 2024, the Philadelphia Art Commission.

The next Art Commission will be held Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

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