



City of Kennesaw  
2529 J.O. Stephenson Avenue  
Kennesaw, GA 30144

Madelyn Orochena - Chair,  
Kimberly Watkins - Vice-Chair,  
Daniel Barnard - Secretary,  
Travice Baldwin Obas,  
Chelsea Bodenhamer, Andrea Hall

## KENNESAW ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION (KACC)

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March 17, 2022 – 5:30 P.M.

Meeting Minutes

City Hall – Council Chambers

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### I. Call to Order/Roll Call

- Chairperson Madelyn Orochena called the meeting of the City of Kennesaw Art and Culture Commission to order at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 2529 J.O. Stephenson Ave, Kennesaw, GA.
- **Commission Members Present:** Kimberly Watkins, Madelyn Orochena, Travice Obas, Chelsea Bodenhamer and Daniel Barnard. Five (5) Commission members present (four needed to establish a quorum). The total number of members is five (5).
- **Commission Members Absent:** Andrea Hall
- **City Representatives in Attendance:** Tanyel Aviles - City of Kennesaw, Darryl Simmons - City of Kennesaw, and Vanita Keswani - Smith-Gilbert Gardens.
- **Guests in attendance:** Robin Thornhill and Antonio Jones

### II. Approval of Minutes – February 17, 2022

- The Commission reviewed and looked over the meeting minutes from the previous Arts and Culture Meeting, February 17th, 2022.
  - Kimberly Watkins mentioned that the previous meeting was called to order by her.
  - Kimberly Watkins motioned, Chelsea Bodenhamer seconded, to adopt the minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

### III. Financial Report

- City Staff Tanyel Aviles presented and reviewed the financial budget up to the current timeline (January) for the Arts and Culture Commission.
  - KBA yearly expense of \$95.00 (ninety-five dollars) went out and was reflected.
  - An extra \$43.00 (forty-three dollars) was added to the budget from an additional Owl sale.
  - The Manhole Covers Project was paid for but will show up on next month's financial report.
  - Financial report approval. Motion by Travice Obas, Seconded by Chelsea Bodenhamer, Motion approved 5-0.

The next scheduled meeting of the Kennesaw Arts & Culture Commission will be  
Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

#### **IV. KACC New Commission Members**

- Robin Thornhill and Andrea Hall are welcomed as the two (2) new Commission members. Robin was able to attend the meeting in person and inform the Commission of her background in theater and performance arts.

#### **V. Manhole Covers Project**

- Darryl Simmons met with Page Burch and located seven (7) spots in the Downtown area that could be used for the manhole covers. Additionally, one (1) spot was selected for the Skate Park at Swift-Cantrell, for the design submitted that derives its inspiration from the Skate park layout.
- Motion to approve a budget up to \$3,300 (three thousand and three hundred dollars) for the Manhole Covers Project.
  - Motion by Kimberly Watkins, Second by Travice Obas. Motion carried 5-0.

#### **VI. Trellis Project**

- Install for the Trellis Project, second season, is set for the 1st of April. Kimberly Watkins is going to switch from leaves to flowers to be representative of the season/climate.

#### **VII. Kindness Rock Garden**

- Kimberly Watkins spoke with Pine Mountain Middle school and confirmed that the school will be painting rocks, and subsequently have already started preparing. Additionally, the school is also in the works to design and build the bench that will be going in the garden.

#### **VIII. Art Blooms (Smith-Gilbert Gardens)**

- Vanita Keswani and Kimberly Watkins are working together on the review process for the Art Blooms submissions.
  - Vanita updated that there have been a few submissions outside of the KSU art program, which is good as the word is spreading on the project.
  - Maria Sarmiento and Madelyn Beck are also reviewing submissions for the Art Blooms.
  - David Landis, a well-known and well-established sculptor in Atlanta, has submitted a design for the project as well.
  - Vanita and Kimberly are also going to work with the students from KSU who have submitted, about purchasing their pieces post-show for the City of Kennesaw.
  - Karina Sephora is a potential artist to seek out for the Art Blooms project.
    - This artist has agreed to work on a piece for the Gardens.
  - KACC mentioned and incorporated in the promotional material used to advertise the Art Blooms project.
- Tanyel Aviles is looking into speaking with the KBA and Downtown Development about sculptural work that could be implemented in the Kennesaw Downtown area.

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- Darryl Simmons has heard a very positive reception from the development side, about potential artwork/sculptures being placed in the downtown area.
- Vanita is looking to push the call for art out to more locations. Also, she is hoping to have the artwork on display for a longer period of time.
- Tanyel reiterated that going over budget might not be a bad idea, as it shows the City that the KACC budget is used/needed and there is a potential for more to be used/needed.
- Budget gone over will carry over to the following year, to be deducted from that year's budget.

### **IX. Pisano's Pizza Mural Project**

- The Commission reviewed designs/ideas for the mural continuation that will be added to the current work painted on Pisano's Pizza.
  - The Commission is looking at either option B or A, as these options hold more color and a more dynamic feel.
  - The Commission is recommending option B
    - However, hoping that the large flower could be substituted as the flower is reminiscent of a tropical aesthetic, and instead that perhaps a more artistic image could be used, such as a paint brush or pallet.
- Motion to approve the design chosen, option B but second choice being option A. Motion by Kimberly Watkins, Second by Travice Obas. Motion carried 5-0.

### **X. Summer Street Productions**

- Applications have closed for the Summer Street Productions' Mural project, but no applications have been processed so a new call to art is going to be pushed.
  - Call for Artists who work together and eventually will compete for a final prize.
  - Kimberly Watkins is going to contact Robert Sherer, a professor at KSU who puts out a monthly email list with arts related opportunities.
  - Travice Obas is going to put the word out at Georgia Highlands College.

### **XI. Phase 4 Art Poles**

- Art Poles budget and proposal form - estimates for the budget have been updated.
- The Commission is reconsidering the 'shelf life' of the poles, and materials used. However, the idea is that the poles project would be continuous and more calls would be consistently pushed.
  - Motion to approve budget to apply more UV protectant to the current set of poles. Budget of \$50 (fifty dollars) to be approved.
  - Motion by Kimberly Watkins, Second by Travice Obas. Motion carried 5-0, but will be holding off on phase 4, as other larger projects will be using significant amounts of this year's budget.

### **XII. Event Coordination**

- Tanyel Aviles mentioned that there needs to be enough time in advance for notice, so that the City of Kennesaw can properly prepare for events that the KACC puts on. Notice

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for things like personnel to be present, Mayor to attend, and social/promotion to be put out in advance of the event.

- Kimberly Watkins mentioned that she would also like to see more events on the KACC's behalf, possibly making events out of projects that the Commission has otherwise not considered before.
- Tanyel mentioned that month's ahead of time would be an appropriate planning timeframe.

### **XIII. Public Comments**

- City Staff Liaison Mr. Antonio Jones mentioned that there is a new memorial monument for the first responders that will be put in place in an adjacent city, and he wanted to gauge how the City and the Commission would feel about something similar being placed in the City of Kennesaw.
  - Darryl Simmons mentioned that something similar will be put into place for the City of Alpharetta.
- Madelyn Orochena mentioned that there will be a gallery show reception opening soon, for the KACC Ben Robertson Art Gallery.
- Sean Mills attended the meeting to discuss a potential idea that was in place pre-Covid, but is now hoping to revitalize this idea and wanted to gauge the Commission's opinions on potentially becoming a partner on the project. The Project is geared to creating more accessibility and accountability for artists, by providing more access and notification of art related events and shows. To create spaces for things like pop-up art shows. Sean is looking to get this project off the ground and is seeking out potential partners.

### **XIV. Adjournment**

- The Commission collectively decided for a meeting adjourned. Travice Obas motioned, Chelsea Bodenhamer second with 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm. The Commission will meet next April 21st, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.