



# City of Columbia, Missouri

## Meeting Minutes

### Commission on Cultural Affairs Standing Committee on Public Art

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Thursday, July 10, 2025  
12:00 PM

Regular

City Hall  
Room 1C  
701 E. Broadway  
Columbia, MO

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gadsden called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Staff present: Sarah Dresser (Office of Cultural Affairs Manager) and Eric Hempel (Sustainability Manager)

Guest present: Adrienne Luther Johnson (artist)

**Present:** 4 - Tootie Burns, Kristin Gadsden, Sarah Bohl and Jamie Scheppers

**Unexcused:** 1 - Cameron Dorth

#### II. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made.

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion to approve the agenda made by Burns, seconded by Scheppers; motion carried.**

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from May 1, 2025

**Attachments:** [5.1.25 Draft Minutes](#)

**Motion to approve the minutes from May 1, 2025 made by Burns, seconded by Bohl; motion carried.**

#### V. OLD BUSINESS

None.

#### VI. NEW BUSINESS

##### Pollinator Art Pole Design Review

Dresser gave an overview of the Pollinators Art Pole Program, which was an initiative brought at the suggestion of former Ward 2 City Council member Lisa Meyer. This is a collaborative project between the Office of Cultural Affairs, Office of Sustainability and Public Works. Dresser had previously shared the reports that were presented to City Council in October 2024 and June 2025, with plans to address pollinator areas in Ward 2, specifically along North Providence Road. As the pollinators are in process of maturing, the City plans to beautify these areas by making them more "intentional spaces." In

addition to new signage to be installed, a pilot art project is underway to create art poles to install along the roadway. Artist Adrienne Luther Johnson was selected to move forward with the pilot project.

The artist was present to give an overview of her design approach. She was able to meet with 4th and 5th graders in the summer school program at Parkade Elementary (which is in Ward 2), and do a lesson on pollinators. She then had the students write thank you notes to the pollinators of their choice and create drawings of pollinators. From these samples, the artist took the student artwork as inspiration for her six art pole designs. The artist created six different poles featuring the colors of the rainbow along with a different pollinator on each of the poles.

The committee was impressed by the designs as well as her process of working with the students for education and inspiration. There was some questions to staff on how the students would be recognized for their work, and Sustainability will plan a ceremony (either in the school or on site) in the fall after installation. There are also materials (photos and videos along with the thank you design cards) that can be used in social media promotion regarding the program.

**Motion to recommend the six art pole designs made by Scheppers, seconded by Boh!; motion carried.**

## VII. REPORTS

None.

## VIII. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Dresser reported that later this fall, there will be some new business regarding the artwork components for the new North Village Park. There will be several opportunities and calls for artists, and she will follow up with the committee at that time.

## IX. NEXT MEETING DATE

Next meeting will be scheduled as needed.

## X. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion to adjourn at 12:31 p.m. made by Scheppers, seconded by Burns; motion carried.**