

MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 5:45 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Location: City Hall GA Meeting Room

101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, NC 27701

For more information on how to join, visit:

<https://durhamnc.gov/453/Public-Art-Committee>

Committee Members Present

Heather Wilson, Co-Chair	Eliza Redmann
Mark Iwinski, Co-Chair	Anjali Mathew
Molly Trask-Price	Jaime Chaves
Malinda Love	Amanda Frystock-Ronan

Committee Members Absent

Aya Shabu (excused)	Rachel Mutschler (excused)
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City & County Staff Present

Harry Turfle, City of Durham	Brenda Hayes-Bright, Durham County
Stephanie Minor, City of Durham	Sarah Martin, Durham County
Jo Palazuelos-Krukowski, City of Durham	Robin Schultze, City of Durham

Guests Present

Mya Castillo-Marte (Durham Resident)

I. Call to Order and Guest Introductions

- a. Wilson (Co-Chair) called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

II. Adjustments to the Agenda

- a. Robin Schultze (City) provided a brief presentation on the UDO, added under New Business.

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. **MOTION:** To approve the November 2025 minutes (Frystock-Ronan, Iwinski 2nd.)
- b. **ACTION:** Approved (5-0, Trask-Price, Love, Chaves abstained).
- c. **MOTION:** To approve the December 2025 minutes (Iwinski, Frystock-Ronan 2nd).
- d. **ACTION:** Approved (5-0, Trask-Price, Love, Chaves abstained).

IV. Announcements

- a. City of Durham
 - i. Palazuelos-Krukowski (City) reminded PAC members about the upcoming joint [Durham Cultural Advisory Board](#) (DCAB) and [PAC](#) annual retreat to be held in late February 2026.
 - ii. Minor announced ongoing efforts to transition PAC into a [City Council](#)-

appointed board, which would include member stipends of \$50 per meeting and an elevated process.

- b. Durham County
 - i. Martin (County) stated approximately 150 applications had been received in the RFQ for seven projects in various county buildings. Martin asked for volunteers for the selection panel filtering submissions. Frystock-Ronan (Member) and Mathew (Member) volunteered.

V. New Business

- a. [Unified Development Ordinance](#)
 - i. Robin Schultze (City) from the [Planning Department](#) presented the new incentive system for developers.
 - ii. Developers can receive a 1% reduction in open space requirements if they provide public art, or they may pay 1% of the total project cost into the public art fund.
 - iii. In areas designated by the [Comprehensive Plan](#) (mixed-use/walkable areas), amenity space requirements are reduced from 15% to 12% if public art is included.
 - iv. Expedited Review & Timeline
 - 1. Developers providing art (rather than just the fee) are eligible for expedited site plan review, potentially saving tens of thousands of dollars in carrying costs.
 - 2. The UDO is scheduled for the Planning Commission in late February/March, with a joint public hearing in April. The target adoption date is the end of the fiscal year (June).
- b. 2025 Year in Review – City & County Projects
 - i) [Imagine a Day Without Water Murals](#), 808 W Trinity Ave. (City)
 - 1. Minor (City) shared that the Cultural and Public Art Program executed in partnership with the Water Management Department, three regional artists Zac Bender, Thomas Begley, Davis Davis installed murals on sewer risers along the South Ellerbe Creek Trail. The project was praised for achieving a high positive impact on a modest budget with a rapid three-month turnaround.
 - ii) [Morgan Rigsbee Garage Mural](#), 105 W Morgan St. (City)
 - 1. First-time public artist Chaun "Zion" Pierce created a vinyl installation on the loop at the Morgan Rigsbee Garage. The project, commissioned by the Transportation Department, created a big splash with a small budget, according to staff.
 - iii) [Southern High School Mural](#), 800 Clayton Rd. (City)
 - 1. Funded by a South Arts grant and Keep Durham Beautiful, artist Mythic created a mural in the arts hallway that incorporated sketches from approximately 90 students regarding pride in shared spaces.
 - iv) [Holton Career Center Bus Shelter](#), 401 N Driver St. (City)
 - 1. As part of the aforementioned South Arts grant, a vinyl bus shelter design featuring a bull transforming trash into flowers was installed outside the Holton Career and Resource Center.
 - v) [W.D. Hill Mural](#), 1308 Fayetteville St. (City)
 - 1. Artist Kiara Chatterjee led participants from the [YouthWorks](#) program

to complete a mural at W.D. Hill over an eight-week summer period. The project provided professional skills training and a \$20/hour wage to student participants.

- vi) [Public Art Map](#) (City)
 - 1. CPAP launched a GIS-based digital map tracking approximately 100 pieces of art across the city. The committee is now seeking volunteers to record audio descriptions to add city voices to the map entries.
- vii) [Youth Home Classrooms](#), 2432 Broad St. (County)
 - 1. Artist [Max Dowdle](#) designed comic book-inspired murals for the new classrooms at the Youth Home. These designs were integrated into the educational environment with help from Durham County Schools teachers.
- viii) 500 East Main Pocket Deck (County)
 - 1. The garage area features "Sea to Sky" themed wayfinding murals by different artists that use yellow and blue color schemes to distinguish facing sides. Artist [Art of Anon](#) created a massive 60-foot by 20-foot mural comprised of over 1,100 triangles at the Pocket Deck. The geometric design serves as a vibrant visual anchor for the space. Artist Lacey Crime created atmospheric murals evoking the outdoors. Artist [Mayanthi Jaywardena](#) created colorful abstractions.
- ix) Admin 1 Old Courthouse Mural (County)
 - 1. Artist [Claire Alexander](#) created a panoramic mural on the ground level of 200 East Main Street depicting Durham's history, such as the printing press and quilting. The piece features a local community member as the model for the central figure sewing a quilt.
- c. Request for Interest (RFI) and Artist Submission Evaluation Criteria
 - i. Revising Evaluation Criteria
 - 1. Iwinski (Co-Chair) introduced a discussion on the scoring criteria for Requests for Interest (RFI) for projects over \$30,000, noting that the previous five-category system was clunky and redundant.
 - 2. Minor (City) gave background on the forms and the realization that the system was developed in the past and could be updated to fit the current process needs.
 - 3. Redmann (Member) said there only need to be three criteria, and the process would benefit from simplicity. She suggested criteria: aesthetics, community, technical.
 - 4. The group debated how to make sure the policies aren't exclusionary because of advanced technical considerations.
 - 5. Iwinski (Co-Chair) suggested that staff should have a vote in the selection process since she has to work with the artists long-term and has particular expertise.
 - ii. **MOTION:** To approve three new categories for art evaluation criteria to be weighted equally at 10 points each: Community Engagement, Aesthetics, and Technical Considerations (Redmann, Iwinski 2nd).
 - iii. **ACTION:** Approved (8-0).
- d. Evaluation Criteria Refinement
 - i. Iwinski (Co-Chair) proposed that members review the specific bullet points within the newly approved three categories and suggest edits to remove

redundancy before the next meeting.

- e. Best Practices Document
 - i. Minor (City) tasked members with reviewing the "Public Art Best Practices" draft document for discussion and formal adoption in March.

VI. Public Questions

- a. Mya Castilo-Marte (Durham resident) expressed enthusiasm and appreciation for the work of the committee and noted how much progress has been made in Durham by this group.

VII. Adjournment

- a. Iwinski (Co-Chair) adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.
- b. Upcoming February 10, 2026 PAC Meeting:
 - i. PAC Recruitment Discussion
 - ii. Upcoming public art design review(s):
 1. [Crest Street Public Art Project](#) (Candy Carver & Anthony Patterson)
 2. [Living Mural at City Hall](#) (Britt Flood)
 3. [Public Art at City Hall](#) (Eliza Redmann)

For updates on City of Durham's Cultural & Public Art Program, visit:

<https://www.durhamnc.gov/450/Cultural-Public-Art-Development>

For updates on Durham County's Public Art Program, visit:

<https://www.dconc.gov/county-departments/departments-a-e/engineering-and-environmental-services/durham-county-public-art-program>

VIII. Documents

- a. [Durham Cultural Roadmap](#)
- b. [Unified Development Ordinance \(UDO\)](#)
- c. [City's Comprehensive Plan](#)
- d. [Durham Cultural Advisory Board](#)

For updates on City of Durham's Cultural & Public Art Program, visit: [Cultural & Public Art Program](#)

For updates on Durham County's Public Art Program, visit: [Durham County Public Art Program](#)

Submitted respectfully by,
Harry Turfle