



## **CHATTANOOGA PUBLIC ART COMMISSION**

**Thursday, June 26, 2025, 1:00 - 3:00 PM**

City Council Building | J.B. Collins Conference Room

**PRESENT:** Courtney Cochran, Jules Jackson, Ryan Kopet, Nandini Makrandi, Dixon Stetler, Matthew Stovall, Jack Wood

**GUESTS:** Courtney Cox, Scenic Stitches

**STAFF:** Carmen Davis, Senior Director, Office of ACCE

Meeting called to order at 1:03 pm

### **I. Call to Order:**

1. Introductions - Welcome New Commissioner, Jack Wood
2. Approval of April 24, 2025 minutes

Motion to approve the April minutes made by Commissioner Cox, Second by Commissioner Stetler . Motion carried..

### **II. CPAC Business**

1. Manager, Public Art Update - Staff informed the commission that interviews for the Public Art Manager position had been completed and an offer would be extended by the end of the week.
2. Children's Activity Book - Staff informed the commission that they are working with the city attorney to address any legal requirements prior to publishing the activity book online. A copyright will need to be secured for the book before it is published, and the city attorney will coordinate with a copyright attorney on this matter. Staff also noted that the standalone Public Art Chattanooga website will be discontinued, with all content migrated to the **chattanooga.gov** website.
3. Introduction of CPAC Motion Sheet - Staff explained that, as recommended by the city attorney, a motion sheet will be used moving forward, and the commission was shown an example of the form.
4. Scenic Stitches - The commission reviewed plans for the Scenic Stitches Spectacle Yarn Bombing, an installation of crocheted art in Coolidge Park as part of the Scenic Stitches Spectacle on September 27, 2025. The

event will feature large-scale, interactive fiber arts activities, and the yarn bombing would involve covering up to 24 light posts with colorful, crocheted or knitted panels approximately 18 inches tall. While yarn bombing is traditionally considered guerilla art, staff clarified that this installation will be formally approved by the commission. The work will be created with donated materials and installed by volunteers from the Chattanooga Yarncrafters group and the Chattanooga Fiber Arts Guild under staff oversight. Installation is scheduled for August 30–31, 2025, with removal planned for the weekend of the festival, September 27–28, 2025. The commission recommended that clear signage be included to help the public understand that this is a sanctioned installation.

Motion to approve the Scenic Stitches yarn bomb installation made by Commissioner Stetler, Second by Commissioner Cox . Motion carried..

5. Doing Business with the City - AVA Workshop
6. Arts at City Hall - “Creative Expressions: A Splash Art Showcase”

### **III. Projects**

1. Stadium - Staff met with the project manager and landscape architecture firm and determined that a site visit was needed. Austin will visit the site on July 2, and once the new Public Art Manager is in place, a decision will be made regarding the location and type of artwork.
2. Veterans Bridge Phase 2 - Phase 2 of the Veterans Bridge project is moving forward with VIA Partnership serving as consultant. The artist call will be released today or tomorrow. A \$25,000 stipend will be provided to the selected artist, while materials and installation will be handled by the city. Commissioner Cox inquired about how the call would be shared, and Commissioner Makrandi asked about the installation process. Staff explained that installation will be managed entirely by the print company, and the selection committee will determine both the artist and the design.
3. Veterans Bridge Phase 3 - legal has provided feedback on the contract, and staff are addressing items that require further attention.

### **IV. Collection Management**

1. Artwork Repainting - A purchase order is in process for the repainting of an artwork. Work is scheduled to begin in the first quarter of fiscal year 2025–2026.

2. Annual Collection Assessment - End-of-year review of the artwork collection is underway. Includes updating the collection spreadsheet, conducting detailed site visits, and reviewing condition of works.
3. City Threads/Coopers Alley - Partnership with the Downtown Alliance to maintain sculptures in Coopers Alley. The Alliance was provided with two gallons of paint to use during their biweekly cleanings, enabling touch-ups where graffiti has been applied. Goal: reduce vandalism by keeping sculptures in good condition.
4. Luminous Light Mast Deaccession - The sculpture was removed by Tri-State Electric at a cost of \$30,878.25. Additional expenses: A1 Barricades fencing: \$1,373.24, Ruffner appraisal: \$1,375.00 Total expenses: \$33,626.29, Income from scrap metal sale (SA Recycling): \$574.29
5. "I Like Art" by Charlie Newton (Glenwood Community Center) - A repair and refurbishment plan is in progress. Planned work includes: New frame installation, Repairing canvas tears, Removing crayon marks and Touching up paint.

## **V. Public Comment**

Public Comment: At the conclusion of the regular business on the agenda at each Public Art Commission (the "Commission") meeting, the Chairperson will recognize members of the public who wish to address the Commission.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, August 28, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Meeting concluded at 1:40 pm