

CITY OF ONTARIO  
PUBLIC ART PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
CITY HALL, COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM  
303 East B Street  
August 31, 2023  
(Subject to Commission approval)

**CALL TO ORDER**

This meeting was called to order by Chair Mia Melle at 1:40 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Kim Boganey, Arts & Culture Manager.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

Chair	Mia Melle
Vice Chair	Wendy Slatkin
Commissioners:	Maggie Latimer
	John Machado
	Meranda Roberts
Executive Director	Helen McAlary
Senior Admin Assistant	Nelva Costello

**ABSENT**

Council Liaison	Debra Porada
Executive Director, MAC	Mariss Kuccheck

**INTRODUCTIONS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The August 3, 2023, minutes were approved by a 5-0 vote with a motion from Commissioner Meranda Roberts and seconded by Vice Chair Wendy Slatkin.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Artist Finalist, C Block/Ovitt Family Community Library Public Art Project**

Arts & Culture Manager Boganey gave an overview of C Block/Ovitt Family Community Library public art project, which provides for two murals that are reflective of the City's downtown vitality, celebrates literacy, and honors children's book author Beverly Cleary. The projects should be completed by February 2024.

The project budget is \$100,000 and the artist selection panel included:

- John Machado, PAC Member, ASP Chair

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- Shawn Thrasher, Library Director
- Phoebe Millerwhite, Arts Member, Director Diana Berger Gallery
- Milissa Checchi, Community Member, Friends of Ontario City Library

There were twenty-one different designs submitted by artists from fourteen different cities in Southern California. Of the twenty-one submissions, four came from Ontario artists.

Three finalists were recommended for interviews by the artist selection panel:

- Rick Caughman, Ontario
- A’Kailah Byrd-Greene, San Bernardino
- Mobile Mural Lab (Hunter Culberson, Renee Fox, David Russel), Marina Del Rey

The Commission discussed many aspects of the final three artists recommended by the artist selection panel, including their depiction of Ontario’s landmarks, their use of color and style and unique aspects of each design proposal.

**Motion:** Moved by Commission Machado and seconded by Commissioner Roberts and unanimously carried to approve the three artists finalists for interviews.

## **2. Selected Design, National Fitness Campaign Public Art Project**

Arts & Culture Manager Boganey gave an overview of the National Fitness Campaign public art project, located at the Homer Briggs Memorial Park, which is to select a winning design that promotes positive, light-hearted imagery that emphasizes movement, exercising, dynamic patterns or nature in some way. The project should be completed by Fall 2023.

The budget for this project is \$5,000 and will be awarded directly from National Fitness Campaign. The artist selection panel members included:

- Maggie Latimer, PAC Member, ASP Chair
- Nick Gonzalez, Recreation Directory
- Jessica Smith, National Fitness Court

The panel recommended artist Jesus Hernandez (Ontario, CA), with his design titled *MOTION Murals*, as the winning design. The runners up were A’Kailah Byrd Greene (San Bernardino, CA) and Paula Torres (Rancho Cucamonga).

Discussion ensued amongst Commissioners regarding the different designs submitted and how the winning design by artist Jesus Hernandez might better reflect Ontario. Several Commissioners expressed

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their desire to see if the artist would be amenable to providing changes incorporating elements of the park's neighborhood.

**Motion:** Moved by Commission Latimer and seconded by Commissioner Machado and unanimously carried to approve artist Jess Hernandez' designs for the National Fitness Campaign public art project, with the recommendation that he incorporate into his design elements reflective of Ontario and the Homer F. Briggs Park neighborhood.

**NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 1:30 pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Melle adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

**Submitted:**



Nelva Costello, Senior Administrative Assistant

**APPROVED:**



Mia Melle, Chair