



**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
PUBLIC ART & PLACEMAKING ADVISORY BOARD
TOWER 101, SUITE 1100**

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE 101 NE 3RD AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
NOVEMBER 17, 2025 – 1:00 P.M.**

<u>MEMBERS</u>		January-December 2025	
		PRESENT	ABSENT
Martha Steinkamp, Chair	P	8	0
Phoenix Marks, Vice Chair	P	8	0
Jacqueline Garcia-Arteaga	P	1	0
Erica Mohan	P	5	3
Jodi Tanner	P	7	1
Elisabeth Wennberg	A	7	2

As of this date, there are 6 appointed members to the Board, which means 4 would constitute a quorum.

Staff Present

Joshua Carden, Cultural Affairs Officer, Staff Liaison
 Porshia Garcia, Community Services Department Director
 Katrina Johnson, Acting Assistant Community Services Department Director
 D'Wayne Spence, Interim City Attorney
 K. Cruitt, Recording Clerk, Prototype, Inc.

Communication to the City Commission

None.

Roll Call

Chair Steinkamp called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m. Roll was called and it was noted a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes – 10/20/2025

Motion made by Ms. Tanner, seconded by Vice Chair Marks, to approve. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

- 1. Welcome & Introductions – Brief Background on each Board Member**

The Board and City Staff members present introduced themselves at this time, including new Board member Jacqueline Garcia-Arteaga.

Chair Steinkamp distributed a handout which included information on parliamentary procedure according to *Robert's Rules of Order*, as well as information on Florida's Sunshine Law. She recalled that the Board had been advised at their October 2025 meeting of a possible violation of the Sunshine Law, which she stated had occurred as a result of following the protocol established by Americans for the Arts. She asserted that Florida Statute 286.0112 indicates the protocol followed by the Board was exempt from the requirements of the Sunshine Law.

Interim City Attorney D'Wayne Spence explained that he is tasked with advising the City's advisory bodies on legal matters, and encouraged the Board members to attend an upcoming training session for advisory body members scheduled for November 24, 2025. The training session will cover not only the Sunshine Law but public records law as well.

Attorney Spence further explained that the Statute cited by the Chair is specific to employment negotiations and provides only a limited exemption from the Sunshine Law. He referred the Board members to the *Government-in-the-Sunshine Manual*, which is available online. He clarified that the City had identified a question with regard to possible violation of the Sunshine Law. As a result, the City's Legal Department had asked the Board to go through the artist selection procedure once more, following a process that the Legal Department believes to be consistent with the Sunshine Law.

Attorney Spence concluded that the Chair's earlier analysis of the law as relayed to the Board members was not correct, and requested that she not advise the Board on legal matters.

Chair Steinkamp stated that Florida Statute 286.0112 applies to the appeals process for decisions made by the Board, and that issues have arisen because some individuals do not want to follow that process. She concluded that the Board will continue to follow the selection process established by Americans for the Arts.

2. Public Comment

Attorney Spence referred to Florida Statute 286.0114, which establishes a requirement to allow members of the public an opportunity to speak before formal action is taken. He requested clarification of whether the Board's protocol includes hearing public comments on all items at one time, or they accept public comments on each individual item as it is discussed before a vote.

Chair Steinkamp reiterated that members of the public have not followed the appeals process used by the Board. Attorney Spence explained that the Florida Statute he had

cited provides an opportunity for the public to be heard on any item the Board plans to vote upon, and does not address the appeals process.

Mr. Carden advised that members of the public have requested opportunities to speak before the Board reviews any of the artists' proposals for the 13th Street Roundabout, which was why he had placed Public Comment on today's Agenda ahead of the Board's deliberations.

Troy Liggett, president of the Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association, stated that he had not felt the selection process followed at previous meetings was fair or transparent. He emphasized the importance of the 13th Street Roundabout project to the neighborhood, which will replace an existing sculpture which was funded and selected by the neighborhood itself. The community has requested the City's help in funding the current project and would like to participate in the process.

Mr. Liggett continued that the Association established a neighborhood panel which reviewed the applications submitted by artists. He provided the Board members with a handout on the neighborhood's process, concluding that they hope to provide constructive input on the decision regarding new artwork.

Mr. Liggett concluded that the panel's scores were summarized on a spreadsheet. At their most recent meeting, the Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association determined that he may represent their recommendation at today's Board meeting. He pointed out that a list of recommendations, rather than a single selection, was provided. The neighborhood indicated a preference for one architectural firm which submitted an application.

Chair Steinkamp stated that she saw a conflict of interest in relation to the neighborhood's recommendation. She noted that their request for public funding means the path toward selecting the artwork must follow the call to artists process, and proposed that if the neighborhood did not wish to follow this process, they return the public funding and pay for the artwork themselves.

Mr. Carden clarified that the artists considered by the neighborhood panel were respondents to the call to artists issued by the Board.

Ms. Tanner observed that she saw no conflict of interest in the neighborhood's recommendation, as the public has a right to offer their comments. Chair Steinkamp asserted that when an entity such as the Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association wishes to use public funds, they must follow the required selection process; if they do not agree with the selections made by the Board, they must follow a required appeals process as well.

Vice Chair Marks pointed out that Mr. Liggett has only shared the findings of the neighborhood panel with the Board so they may consider the neighborhood's input. The

selection of the proposed artwork will be made by the Board at today's meeting. Ms. Mohan agreed, noting that the neighborhood's recommendations show the importance of the artwork to that community and commending them for their input. Chair Steinkamp pointed out that a survey was sent to members of the neighborhood requesting their input before the selection process began.

Attorney Spence explained that the Board is restarting its deliberations on the artist selection based on an opinion from the City Attorney's Office. The inclusion of public input under the Sunshine Law does not affect the Board's selection process; they may continue to follow the protocol established by Americans for the Arts. The Sunshine Law simply requires that the Board hear comments from the public, which they may consider in their deliberations.

Chair Steinkamp asked if the representatives of the neighborhood intended to accept the Board's decision once their process is complete. Attorney Spence advised that this was not relevant, as the question that was raised addressed a procedural issue.

Ed Catalano, member of the Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association, recalled that it was originally suggested that the residents of the neighborhood would be asked to review submissions and make a selection. He acknowledged that this may or may not have been correct, but explained that if the neighborhood had known from the start that the use of public money meant the selection of artwork would be made by someone else, they might have turned down City funding.

Mr. Carden clarified that because the 13th Street Roundabout is located on public land, the decision on the artwork would still have come through the Board, even if the work was privately funded. The intent of today's Public Art and Placemaking Advisory Board (PAPAB) meeting was to select a short list of artists who will create renderings, which will then be shown to the neighborhood as well as the PAPAB, resulting in the selection of one work.

Colleen Lockwood, resident of the Middle River Terrace neighborhood, stated that she felt the Chair's demeanor had been argumentative and confrontational during the meeting thus far. She asserted that the Board had not previously shared information about their evaluation criteria with the public, and concluded that members of the neighborhood felt disrespected.

Chair Steinkamp apologized to Ms. Lockwood and members of the community for any perceived disrespect. She added that while the Board has been accused of a lack of transparency, they have not responded to those allegations.

3. 13th Street Roundabout Artist Selection

Mr. Carden explained that each Board member would be asked to provide one to three applicants' names that they would like to discuss further. The members presented their choices for additional discussion and consideration of their applications.

Following their review and three rounds of voting, the Board selected the following shortlist comprised of three artists and one alternate:

- Brooks & Scarpa
- Curious Form
- Landis Sculpture
- Marian Mears (alternate)

Motion made by Ms. Tanner, seconded by Vice Chair Marks, to move forward with the top three and an alternate for the 13th Street Roundabout, being Curious Form in the top three, Landis Sculpture top three, Brooks & Scarpa in top three, Marian Mears as an alternate. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Mr. Carden clarified that he would reach out to the selected applicants and put them in touch with the Middle River Terrace community.

Ms. Garcia-Arteaga suggested that because the proposed artwork would be included in Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner Steven Glassman's Commission District, the Commissioner should be notified of any outreach within that District. Chair Steinkamp added that she would welcome any involvement by Commissioner Glassman on issues related to public art.

4. Riverwalk Garage Mural Donation – Smart Growth Partners

Mr. Carden stated that he had reached out to the artist who would provide the Riverwalk garage mural donation and requested that he revise the rendering provided at the October 2025 meeting. It was noted that the artist may have misunderstood the Board's intended direction in his revision. He concluded that he would contact the artist once more to clarify the Board's recommendation so the mural can be approved by the Board in December.

5. New Business / Board Comments

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 15, 2025. Mr. Carden added that he would send the Board members a list of their prospective 2026 meeting dates.

Chair Steinkamp reported that Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner Dr. Pamela Beasley-Pittman has determined the Little Lincoln Park project will move forward with submissions from Dillard High School students. The Chair will meet with representatives of that school to review the process for student involvement.

Ms. Tanner stated that Christmas on Las Olas is scheduled for Tuesday, December 2, 2025. Las Olas Boulevard will be closed between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. for this event.

Ms. Garcia-Arteaga advised that she is a board member of the Dolphin Democrats, which will host a holiday party on December 10, 2025.

6. Communications to the Commission

None.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.

[Minutes prepared by K. McGuire, Prototype, Inc.]