# Commission meeting

Documenter name: Patricia Sheahan Agency: Akron Public Art Commission

Date: July 9, 2025

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### **Summary**

- The new traffic signal box wraps were discussed at length. Commissioner Summer Hall said she had received compliments from the community about the installed art, and it is time to begin discussions for round two of wraps.
- Two new commission members were introduced but will have no vote until City Council officially approves their nominations.
- There was extensive conversation about choosing one or more sites for <u>murals in under-recognized</u> neighborhoods.

## **Follow-Up Questions**

- How do members of this commission become more accessible to the public?
- Will recognition in a trade magazine highlighting the traffic signal boxes help to identify the vision and purpose of the Akron Public Art Commission?

#### **Notes**

No agenda was posted for the July 9, 2025, meeting on the commission's website

Present (speaking during the meeting)

Andy Hillier

Jessica Travis

Megan Delong

Jon Fiume

Roberta Rogers

Erik Reynolds

Summer Hall, City of Akron liaison

Larissa Brown

Kiarra Warren, new member

Kevin Smith, new member

#### Roll Call

<u>Hillier began the July 9 meeting with roll call</u> and discussed his reading of the meeting minutes from Jan. 8, March 12, April 9 and June 11. Hillier found no issues with any of the minutes and asked for a motion to approve. Fiume made a motion to approve and Brown seconded. Commissioners approved the minutes.

#### **Old Business**

Hillier introduced new commissioners, Warren and Smith, and reminded them that the new members still had to be approved by City Council.

#### Traffic box discussion

Commissioners discussed traffic box wraps and the positive response from the community as well as making plans for round two of installing artwork on additional traffic boxes.

Hall said all 20 traffic-box wraps have been installed along with labels introducing the artists and QR codes posted for the public arts website.

The first round of traffic box installations is complete and the commission will begin working toward the second round including new locations, legal information needed to continue using Central Graphics contractor, concern over end of date on that contract, and waiting for legal advice.

Hall shared a good press opportunity in a trade magazine about the Akron Public Art Commission and the traffic box wraps that will take place at the end of the year.

#### Work Plan

Hillier discussed plans to additional installations in Art x Love high-traffic areas.

Rogers suggested locations, and Hillier asked her to email details of the suggestions.

Hall described the small discrepancy between the approved budget and actual balance for current year funds. An agenda and budget was shared on screen so viewers could more easily understand Hall's explanation of funds spent, donations made, and money available for new

projects and continued maintenance on current projects.

#### Public Art Inventory

Hillier discussed the contract with Art x Love and repairs needed for traffic box art.

The <u>Art x Love</u> proposal was discussed at length regarding the last six months of 2025 and the Public Art Inventory. Revisions were discussed and approved.

#### **New Business**

Locations including City Centre parking deck, Rosa Parks Boulevard, Portage Path and Summit Metro Parks were discussed as possible sites for new murals. Members discussed other locations as well and were advised to be mindful of whether or not buildings or surfaces are city-owned or privately owned.

There are funds available to use for additional traffic box wraps and murals. A suggestion by Hall was to reach out to City Council members, the community and commission members for feedback.

Hillier opened a conversation about the commission members meeting in person for the August meeting. Each year the commission members must vote for leadership positions. Hiller said he would be open to continuing his role and asked others to think about their own commitment to leadership before the August meeting.

It is necessary for one of the commission members to take minutes of every meeting. Hall requested that someone from the commission commit to that leadership role.

Hall summarized information for the in-person August meeting. The Akron Public Art Commission will meet at City Council Chambers on Aug. 13 in person.

#### State of Art Sponsorship and Attendance

Tickets for the State of the Art October event will be discussed at the August meeting.

#### Public Comments

None

#### <u>Adjournment</u>

There was not a quorum for the adjournment of the July 9 meeting, so Hiller closed the meeting at 5:59 p.m. and will address the adjournment at the August meeting.