



AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF PUBLIC ARTS BOARD

WEDNESDAY JULY 15, 2026 – 6:00 PM

151 MARTIN ST., CONFERENCE ROOM 202 & 203, BIRMINGHAM MI

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Draft Minutes, 6/17/2026**
3. Unfinished Business
4. New Business
 - a. Wall Art Application - 555 S. Old Woodward**
5. Communications
6. Public Comments
7. Adjournment

NOTICE: Due to Building security, public entrance during non-business hours is through the Police Department — Pierce St. Entrance only. Individuals with disabilities requiring assistance to enter the building should request aid via the intercom system at the parking lot entrance gate on Henrietta St.

Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at the number (248) 530-1880, or 248-644-3405 (TDD) at least one day before the meeting to request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algún tipo de ayuda para la participación en esta sesión pública deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la ciudad en el número (248) 530-1800 o al (248) 644-5115 (para las personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un día antes de la reunión para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual, auditiva, o de otras asistencias. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).



Public Arts Board Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Conference Room 202 & 203, 151 Martin Street, Birmingham, MI

1. ROLL CALL

City Planner Aldred-Arens called the roll.

Present: Chair Annie VanGelderren, Vice Chair Monica Neville; Board Members Jacob Bayer, Barbara Heller (arrived 6:06 p.m.), Lia Jamerson

Absent: Board Member Andi Harris

Staff: City Planner Aldred-Arens

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 6/17/26

Motion by Neville

Seconded by Jamerson to approve the minutes from last month's meeting.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Bayer, Jamerson, VanGelderren, Neville

Nays: None

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Proposed Sculpture Garden at Woodward Ave and S. Old Woodward

CP Aldred-Arens presented the item.

Board members discussed the following regarding the item:

- If the path could be designed to go around the sculptures so that they could be viewed from all angles, that might be beneficial.
- The alternated layout was likely more appropriate, and having the pads up to the walkway was also pleasant.
- Placement of the Arnada will have to be considered carefully in order to avoid the sun reflecting off of it and affecting Woodward drivers.

- A bench would be an appropriate addition.
- Depending on Shelly and Joel Tauber's approval, this might be named the Tauber Sculpture Garden. This could be indicated by sign or QR code.
- The total cost for creating this garden would likely run between \$60,000 to \$75,000.
- Locating the garden in the proposed location would be appropriate.
- The design and installation of this garden should take into account that this is an entryway to the City. Adding trees would make this feel more like a walkable destination.
- The area near Phoenicia has stone benches and bushes that might be replicated in this area to increase safety.
- If landscaping around the area does obscure some of the view of the sculptures from Woodward, they could be placed on pedestals. This would also deter leaning on the sculptures and would be beneficial during the winter in terms of snow.
- The Tango is already on a pedestal.
- Getting MDOT approval for anything in its right of way would be a challenge.
- The pads should be prepared as soon as possible.
- Other sculptures could be added or rotated in temporarily in the future.
- Adding more trees to the area would be beneficial.

Motion by Jamerson

Seconded by Heller to recommend that the City Commission approve the proposed sculpture garden site plan at the intersection of Woodward Avenue and South Old Woodward Avenue for the installation of three donated sculptures, subject to receipt and review of final information regarding the artworks and artists, and further recommend the use of a portion of the Public Arts Board's allocated budget for installation and construction of the sculpture garden, subject to City Commission approval, and with two additional pads.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Heller, Bayer, Jamerson, VanGelderren, Neville

Nays: None

b. Extend Call for Entry Deadline for Willits Alley

CP Aldred-Arens presented the item.

Board members discussed the following regarding the item:

- Board members will continue to publicize the call for entry.

Motion by Heller

Seconded by Neville to extend the deadline for the Willits Alley Sculpture Art Call for Entry with entries due by 5pm EST, July 31, 2026

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Heller, Bayer, Jamerson, VanGelderren, Neville

Nays: None

5. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Birmingham Bloomfield Cultural Arts Nomination Form

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Board members discussed the following:

- The alleyway next to the Daxton could be used as an inspiration for other open areas and vias in the City.
- The reasons artists might choose to submit an art piece to be installed in Birmingham, and the process of doing so.
- When the Public Arts Board has funds left over, it might be possible to spend those funds on purchasing other art or lighting or other related accessories.
- While it has not yet been possible to schedule an unveiling for Connection, the City and the Board could create a social media post to recognize the sculpture's installation.

Motion by Neville

Seconded by Bayer to use the balance of the budget for this year towards sculpture lighting.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Heller, Bayer, Jamerson, VanGelderren, Neville

Nays: None

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Board motioned to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.



Summer Aldred-Arens, City Planner

Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist



MEMORANDUM

Planning Department

DATE: July 15, 2026

TO: Public Arts Board

FROM: Summer Aldred-Arens, City Planner

SUBJECT: 555 S. Old Woodward – Wall Art Application

Summary

The applicant at the 555. S Old Woodward building has submitted a Wall Art application requesting approval of a new painted mural on a wall of the private cul-de-sac in front of the residential building entrance. The mural depicts Birmingham symbols and notable sites. This mural has already been completed, and once the applicant was informed they must comply with the Wall Art process, they swiftly submitted all documentation.

Reviewing the standards noted above, and although there is subjectivity involved, the Planning Division feels as though the standards for this mural are satisfied, including the zoning provisions of the Downtown Overlay district.

Based on a review of the application submitted and the applicable design review standards and guidelines, the Planning Division recommends that the Public Arts Board recommend that the Design Review Board **APPROVE** the Wall Art application for 555 S. Old Woodward:

Sample Motion Language

Motion to recommend **APPROVAL** of the Wall Art application for 555 S. Old Woodward with the following condition:

OR

Motion to recommend **POSTPONEMENT** of the Wall Art application for 555 S. Old Woodward pending receipt of the following:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

OR

Motion to recommend **DENIAL** of the Wall Art application for 555 S. Old Woodward for the following reasons:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



BIRMINGHAM

Old Woodward

STANDIN'
ON THE
CORNER

DAXTON

220

HYDE PARK PRIME STEAKHOUSE

WOODWARD DREAM CRUISE
EST. 1995

America's 250th Anniversary

