



Agenda - Wednesday, July 10, 2024 - 2:00 PM
Meeting Location: City Hall, 324 Pine Street, 2nd Floor Media Room

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

- a. Call to Order (time)
- b. Roll Call of Members
- c. Acknowledgement of Guests
- d. Approval of Meeting Minutes (June 12, 2024)

2. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Current Project Updates
 - Black Heritage Project - signage
 - Dorsett Park Mural
- b. CRA Mural Project
- c. City Clerk Building
- d. Budget Update & Developer Contributions

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Letter from David Archie
- b. Protocols for Art Projects with Historical Significance or Components

4. STAFF/COMMITTEE/PUBLIC COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. There is a 4 minute time limit for Public Comments
- b. There is no verbal engagement by PAC Members to Public Comment

5. CLOSING PROCEDURES

- a. Next regular meeting Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 2:00 PM
- b. Adjournment (time)

MINUTES
TARPON SPRINGS PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE (TSPAC)
June 12, 2024

THE PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS MET INSIDE THE UPSTAIRS MEDIA ROOM AT CITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024, AT 2:00 P.M. WITH THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

JOAN JENNINGS	CHAIR
GRAHAM JONES	MEMBER
NICHOLAS TOTH	MEMBER
ELENI CHRISTOPOULOS	MEMBER
DAWN ARBETELLO	ALTERNATE MEMBER

ALSO PRESENT:	DIANE WOOD	TSPAC LIAISON
	MEGAN MCINTYRE	MINUTE TAKER

GUESTS:	STEPHEN OLIVER
	JULIANNA DAY (413 E. Oakwood St.)

ABSENT:	KATIE TAYLOR
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I. OPENING PROCEDURES

- A. **Call to Order:** Chair Jennings called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
- B. **Roll Call:** Katie Taylor has an excused absence.

*Member, Sonja McGrath has resigned from the Public Art Committee due to moving away from Tarpon Springs. Please share the vacancies with any interested parties. They can apply at the City Clerk's Office or [ctsfl.us](https://www.ctsfl.us).

- C. **Guests:** Julianna Day, Citizen; Stephen Oliver, Artist.
- D. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (May 8, 2024):

Motion to accept the minutes for the May 8th PAC meeting as recorded.

MOTION: MR. JONES

SECOND: MR. TOTH

Unanimous, the minutes are accepted.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES

1. BLACK HERITAGE PROJECT: (6:40)

Stephen Oliver updated the PAC with progress on the Black Heritage Project North Site at the Sponge Docks. The north site sculpture is almost complete.

2. DORSETT PARK PROJECT: (9:00)

There is damage on the Dorsett Park Mural, which Tom Funcheon believes is caused by the handlebars of bicycles leaning on the wall. The mural will stay up until the Juneteenth celebration. The mural will then come down and be reapplied.

3. BAHAMIAN SPONGE SCULPTURE: (12:08)

Ms. Christopoulos updated the PAC on discussions regarding the Bahamian Sponge Sculpture and possibly other opportunities to create a project at the Sponge Docks. The BOC advised not to present the project until it is more fully developed. Discussion with the BOC suggested a possible, 'Unity Project'.

Motion to table the Bahamian Sponge Sculpture Project. (13:46)

Motion: MR. TOTH

Second: MS. CHRISTOPOULOS

Chair Jennings called for a verbal vote, and it passed. (14:16)

Discussion followed regarding other ideas of a 'Unity Project' at the Sponge Docks.

Motion for Ms. Christopoulos to be authorized to investigate and research a new project to report back to the PAC in June. (33:48)

Motion: MR. TOTH

Second: MS. CHRISTOPOULOS

Discussion followed.

A voice vote was taken: Unanimous.

4. DR. MARY SAFFORD STATUE: (34:45)

Mr. Jones updated the PAC that the BOC was presented with the possible project of honoring the Safford Family, namely Mary Jane Safford, on the grounds of the Safford House Museum and was approved for further research. After consulting with various people outside the PAC, most notably Dr. Elizabeth Coachman who proposed the project, they concluded that if there were a statue honoring Dr. Mary Jane Safford, then the public would ask, where is the statue of Anson Safford? They would also ask, where are the other founders of Tarpon Springs? We broadened her concept a little to represent the founding of Tarpon Springs in 1882 and to have an art piece that evokes that and represents the great diversity of Tarpon Springs at that time.

With the Public Art Committee's agreement, we would like to revise the proposal to do a different type of sculpture leaving the idea to the artist based on the information on the background of Tarpon Springs, give them the location, and ask them to come up with ideas that would take advantage of that.

Motion to revise the proposal. (39:58)

Motion: MS. CHRISTOPOULOS

Second: MR. TOTH

Discussion followed. Mr. Toth said, does one preclude the other, I thought the idea of the Safford House setting with the bronze of Mary Safford would be nice. Leaving the concept into the hands of the artist, we would need someone familiar to the location and the vibe of Tarpon Springs. Where with a Safford statue we are telling them what we want. I could see both being cool.

Mr. Jones, there is nothing wrong with a bronze of a historical figure, it is the idea of selecting one person, alone from the number of people who were the movers and shakers of the founding of Tarpon Springs.

Ms. Christopoulos, I thought the reason was to commemorate that she was one of the first female doctors of Tarpon Springs. Not, a founder of Tarpon Springs. An artist's rendition of the founding of Tarpon Springs is very complex. What are we

commemorating? If it is the founding of Tarpon Springs, then the Safford House is irrelevant.

Ms. Arbetello added, the reason I was excited about this project is because it was recognizing from what I read, a very impressive woman. Particularly at that time in history, women didn't have a lot of opportunities to do the things she did, her travels, her innovations in medicine. Not just being a doctor but being one of the first to be doing some of the things she did. That is why I was excited about the project so to hear it is about the founding of Tarpon Springs didn't click for me, I thought it was about recognizing a very impressive female figure from a time when it was even harder, much harder than it is today.

Chair Jennings, yes that was my concept also. We've not honored any women and as you all pointed out her accomplishments were quite impressive. In the call-to-artists for the Black Heritage Project, there were no specifications for a statue or specified design of the project. It was open to the artist. There were not really any projects that were representative.

Mr. Jones, we started out with a statue of Dr. Mary Jane Safford, and what we realized is that we were ending up with a lifelike representation of a person of historical importance for whatever reason and it was going to be placed in a location where she was of some historical importance and the historical importance part we felt was bound to overwhelm whatever else we said about the statue unless of course you publish a book, and stick that next to the statue to explain about her life (which Dr. Coachman has done) but we didn't want it to be seen as an opportunity for sales for Dr. Coachman. We didn't want it to seem as if it were self-serving. Going back to the ordinance that set up the Public Art Committee its job is to propose and execute art all over the city of Tarpon Springs for the benefit and enjoyment of the citizens and visitors to Tarpon Springs. It is not the Historical Art Society. It is not the History Society. It isn't the Society of Producing Bronze Gnomes. It is the Public Art Committee. That is why the suggestion was well-meaning, it is inappropriate for the Public Art Committee. Since we have gained momentum with this, maybe we can morph it into something more with what the PAC should be proposing.

Chair Jennings Stated, well let's throw it out to the artist.

Ms. Wood wanted to add that if the Safford House is not a good location if the project was going beyond the people that lived in the Safford House. The Mary Safford Project had a solid location at the house. Before you talk about a Call-To-Artist, the new location would have to be vetted by the City, the concept, would need to have more meat to it, before moving forward.

Mr. Jones, I would like to not only change the subject but also change the location. There's a very nice place at the Northern end of the Pinellas Trail, a piece of land at the corner of Live Oak and Safford Ave.

Motion to terminate the Dr. Mary Jane Safford Project. (55:11)

Motion: MR. JONES
Second: MS. CHRISTOPOULOS

Voice Vote: Unanimous.

Motion to approach the city for permission for an art project to be erected at the corner of Safford Ave and Live Oak, in the grassy area currently unoccupied by anything. (56:55)

Motion: MR. JONES
Second: MS. ARBETELLO

Discussion –So, if the location is approved, then we will come up with a project? If the location is approved, then we can come back next month with a selection of ideas that could be possible projects.

Voice Vote: Unanimous.

B. ILLUMINATED ART BOXES: (1:00:10)

Mr. Jones will take on the Illuminated Art Box Project since Ms. McGrath has resigned.

C. CRA MURAL PROJECT: (1:00:19)

No update.

D. CITY CLERK BUILDING: (1:00:33)

Chair Jennings, we've reached a point in the building process to contact the City Clerk, Ms. Irene Jacobs, and the Board of Commissioners for a piece of art in the Clerk's Office.

Motion to contact the BOC, City Clerk, and Deputy City Clerk to inquire about starting a discussion on an art project for beautifying the new City Clerk's building with Public Art.

Motion: MR. JONES
Second: MR. TOTH

Discussion followed – wall art, sculpture, what kind of art? Possibly wall art in the entry foyer. The new building design is small, so the size of the art project can't be too large. The art must be in Public Space so it should be in the foyer or the façade of the building where it is accessible to the public.

Voice Vote: Unanimous.

E. BUDGET UPDATE AND DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS: (1:04:44)

Ms. McIntyre shared the budget update and developer contributions.

Balance 9/30/2023:	\$147,356.00
Revenues through 6/12/2024:	\$62,598.00
Expenditures through 6/12/2024:	\$15,690.00
Projected balance as of 6/12/2024:	\$194,264.00

There are no new project updates, and the PAC Fund had no changes.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. WHITE MARBLE POSEIDON SCULPTURE (1:05:15)

Julian Hartzog would like to donate a sculpture, a white marble Poseidon Sculpture to the city, but he would like to see it at the Sponge Docks. The City Manager offered the space at the corner of Live Oak and Safford, which might be a good place for it. Unfortunately, he is not entertaining that alternative location. At this point, it is unclear if it will proceed.

IV. STAFF/COMMITTEE/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A. STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. Wood announced that there will be a dedication of St. Nicholas Boat Line which will be receiving a historic marker on Hope Day.

B. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Ms. Arbetello asked who she should get a hold of concerning the signal boxes.

Chair Jennings announced many committees are looking for committee members, including the PAC. Applications are at the City Clerk's office. Can the City Clerk's office send out an email to all past members of the Citizen's Academy?

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Julianna Day (1:11:12) Was the Poseidon Sculpture donor the same person who was at the BOC meeting? Do you have a date for coming back to the Bahamian Sponger Project? For the Safford House project, Graham is correct, there will be a fishbowl of people there. My concern if I have questions on what was discussed how do I get that in?

Ms. Wood – please send any concern you want to be discussed to Diane Wood at dwood@ctsfl.us

Stephen Oliver (1:15:05) commented that the Sponge Docks site in front of the Sponge Exchange would be great for what Beeba was talking about – the very same spot, it would balance out the John Cheney monument. It would be great to include what the place looked like.

D. CLOSING PROCEDURES

The meeting is adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024, AT 2:00 PM.

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Joan Jennings, Chair

Diane Wood, City Liaison