

ERIE COUNTY ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES

General Committee Meeting
Wednesday December 10, 2025

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Meeting Minutes

The Art in Public Places General Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, December 10th, 2025 in Eat Off Art Studio, 2495 Main Street, Suite 441 Buffalo NY, and by video conference, in accordance with NYS Open Meetings Law. A quorum was present as indicated:

Members:

Alexa Wajed
Edreys Wajed
Bernice Radle

Susan O'Connor Baird (excused)
Don Siuta (excused)

Ex-Officio Members:

William Geary (Commissioner of the Department of Public Works)
David Bojanowski (County Executive's Office)

Other Attendees:

Monica Boutin (Project Coordinator)
Joanna Panasiewicz (Chief Environmental Compliance Specialist, DEP)

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

- The Art in Public Places Committee was called to order by Chairwoman Wajed at 2:08 PM, roll call was taken by Monica Boutin, a quorum was declared present.

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

- Due to the absence of a quorum at the October 8, 2025 meeting, the committee reviewed both the August 13th, 2025 draft minutes and October 8th draft minutes. Upon motion by Ms. Radle and seconded by Mr. Wajed, both Draft Minutes were unanimously approved.

3. 2025 Small Works Update

- Chairwoman Wajed shared that the Committee received compliments by Gerald Mead for their efforts and creating awareness of local artists.

- One of the 2025 Small Works pieces still needs to be placed that is currently in the DEP office.
4. 2026 Large Works
 - Guest Joanna Panasiewicz from the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning spoke on the Environmental Art Partnership Proposal – a \$10,000 grant through Submerse NY for creative outreach/education on flooding and resiliency.
 - Erie County Parks Dept. has identified Isle View Park along the Shoreline Trail for the piece.
 - The Committee members and Ms. Panasiewicz discussed potential opportunities for future environmental art themes to be incorporated into AIPP initiatives.
 - Upon motion by Ms. Radle and seconded by Mr. Wajed, the Environmental Art Proposal was unanimously approved to be incorporated into the 2026 Call for Art for Large Works.
 5. Resolutions
 6. Unfinished Business
 - 2026 Master Plan: Ms. Boutin stated the Draft 2026 Master Plan will be available for review at the January meeting.
 7. New Business
 - Small Works 2026: Timeline for Small Works Call for Artists will occur later in the year with the Large Works occurring earlier.
 - Committee members discussed implementing a transition plan into the Bylaws to address issues with current members terming off at the same time.
 - Next meeting will take place on Thursday, January 8th, 2026 at 12PM.
 8. Public Comment
 9. Adjournment
 - Upon motion by Ms. Radle and seconded by Mr. Wajed, the meeting was adjourned at 2:54 PM.

ERIE COUNTY ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES

General Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 8, 2026

Meeting Minutes

The Art in Public Places General Committee Meeting was held on Thursday, January 8, 2026 at Richardson Complex, Architecture Center 444 Forest Avenue, Buffalo, NY, and by video conference, in accordance with NYS Open Meetings Law. A quorum was present as indicated:

Members:

Susan O'Connor Baird
Bernice Radle
Don Siuta, Acting Chair

Alexa Wajed (excused)
Edreys Wajed (excused)

Ex-Officio Members:

William Geary (Commissioner of the Department of Public Works)
David Bojanowski (County Executive's Office)
Tina Shortt (County Legislature's Community Enrichment Committee)

Other Attendees:

Colette Balisteri (Assistant Project Coordinator)
Monica Boutin (Project Coordinator)
Tracy Cichocki (Deputy Commissioner Buildings and Grounds)
Zaque Evans (Deputy Commissioner and Chief Economic Development Officer)

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

- The Art in Public Places Committee was called to order by Acting Chair Siuta at 12:05 PM. Roll call was taken by Monica Boutin, and a quorum was declared present.

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

- Due to the absence of a quorum of members who attended the December 10, 2025 General Meeting, approval of the December 10, 2025 meeting minutes was deferred.

3. Master Public Art Plan Review
 - Committee members reviewed the 2026 Draft Master Plan. Mr. Siuta recommended amending the Plan to include language allowing the Committee to explore the option of forming a sub-committee, or equivalent, focused on conservation, restoration, and inventory of the artwork owned by Erie County. Upon motion by Ms. O'Connor Baird and seconded by Mr. Siuta, the vote to accept the Draft Master Plan as amended carried.
4. Resolutions
 - 2026 – 1 Resolution of the Art in Public Places Committee approving the Draft Language of the Annual Public Art Master Plan
 - i. **Resolution of the Arts in Public Places Committee Approving the Draft Language of the Annual Public Art Master Plan**: Upon motion by Ms. O'Connor Baird, and second by Mr. Siuta, the resolution was unanimously passed by the Committee
5. Public Hearing
 - The Public Hearing for the 2026 Draft Master Plan will be held on January 27, 2026 at 4PM-5PM in the Burchfield Penney second floor reception space (1300 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14222)
6. Unfinished Business
 - Annual Schedule
 - i. Committee members reviewed the 2026 meeting schedule with project milestone dates. Mr. Geary proposed adding a meeting date in March/April for members to visit possible locations to showcase the 2026 small works collection.
7. New Business - none
8. Public Comment - none
9. Adjournment
 - Upon motion by Ms. O'Connor Baird and seconded by Mr. Siuta, the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.