



WAYNESVILLE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
MINUTES-SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 6th, 2025
TUESDAY, 4:00PM
TOWN HALL

Mission Statement: The mission of the Waynesville Public Art Commission is to engage the community and enrich public spaces through original art that celebrates Waynesville’s historic, cultural, natural, and human resources.

Present:

Chairman George Kenney
Mark James
Carolyn Kemmett
Steve Lloyd
Ginny Moe
Kathy Swingley

Absent:

CJ Deering
Tonya Harwood
Doug Garrett

Staff Present:

Candace Poolton, Town Clerk

Chairman George Kenney welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:58pm.

1. Introduction of Rafael Blanco-Wall Street Muralist

Rafael Blanco, an internationally recognized artist who specializes in public art murals, introduced the idea of doing a Mural Festival on Wall Street. He explained that there are many opportunities on Wall Street with all the blank walls on the back of the buildings. Mr. Blanco said the mural festival is a great way to bring artists together and get a lot of public art completed in a short amount of time. He suggested finding a sponsor and said he would email Candace contact information of several mural festival organizers. The Public Art Commission expressed concern about how dangerous Wall Street is for pedestrians and that they would recommend converting Wall Street into a one way, keeping all of the parking, and adding a sidewalk extending the length of Wall Street. Mr. Blanco emphasized that WPAC would want the artists to have freedom of expression, but to work with the business owners and public on finding a theme that artists could adhere to. Mark suggested using the widely recognized “Music Men” from the sculpture on Miller

and Main to help “point” people toward Wall Street art walk. Mr. Blanco suggested a mural on Blue Ridge Beer hub to the same effect. Candace suggested paw prints from the animals that are featured in Waynesville’s public art, or the flush mounted light up “bricks”. Candace said she will meet with Development Services to discuss the one-way and sidewalk on Wall Street, and that she will walk with Rafael to walk sites on Main Street for potential murals and get the mural fest organizers contact info from Rafael.

2. Approval of the September 11th, 2025 minutes

A motion was made by Steve Lloyd, seconded by Ginny Moe, to approve the September 11, 2025 minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

3. T-Shirt Discussion

Candace presented the quotes from Big Frog and Old North Prints. Chairman George requested that Candace finds out if Old North Prints does tie dye and Kathy suggested seeing if they would give a discount if the arm of the shirt had their logo on it. Candace said she will email them the results and they can vote at the next meeting.

4. Main Street Mural-Next Steps/Timeline

Chairman George suggested altering the timeline as follows:

- Advertise RFP on November 18th
- Artist submissions due on January 9th
- WPAC decides on finalists and notifies artists on January 19th
- Public presentation by finalists to the WPAC on February 9th
- WPAC/design committee to decide on artist and present to Council on February 10th
- One more meeting may be required to approve the final design of the mural
- Artist to begin mural no later than April 20th

Chairman George suggested the design committee be composed of Alex McKay(local historian), Theresa Pennington(local artist and fundraiser), Doug Worrell(property owner on Main Street), and Beth Gilmore (DWC Director)

5. Other Business

Candace suggested taking a field trip to Wall Street at the next meeting to select potential Public Art locations.

6. Adjourn

A motion was made by Ginny Moe, seconded by Steve Lloyd, to adjourn the meeting at 5:06pm. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

Candace Poolton, Town Clerk

Chairman George Kenney

DRAFT