



CUYAHOGA FALLS
PUBLIC ART BOARD
MINUTES
July 2, 2026

Planning Division
2310 Second Street
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
330-971-8135

Thursday, July 2, 2026

Board Members Present: Rick Krochka, Chair
Molly Hartong
Tom Sullivan, Secretary
C. Arthur Croyle
Mike Brillhart (Non-Voting)
Mark Gilles (Non-Voting)

Board Members Absent: Danielle Dieterich, Vice Chair

Planning Division: Adam Paul, Asst. Planning Director
Lori Jones, Admin. Specialist

Mr. Rick Krochka called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. He explained the meeting process and asked if any members had a conflict with anything on the Agenda. Ms. Molly Hartong stated that she did have a conflict and would not be voting. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

Mr. Tom Sullivan read the Agenda into record.

Mr. Krochka opened the first item to the city.

ART-26-00016

Mr. Adam Paul thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He introduced himself and stated that the city was excited to see this mural come before this Board. He spoke of the Parks Department providing some help and what a great space this will be. He then went over the staff report for the record.

Mr. Krochka closed the item to the city and asked if there were any questions from the Board.

Mr. C Arthur Croyle questioned if this was the first big mural to come onto a private building, and Mr. Paul stated that it was the 2nd, but the 1st one was partially in progress when it came to them. Mr. Croyle then questioned what is the responsibility of the owner of the building to keep it there, once it is up, and Mr. Paul stated that in most cases the owner commissioned the artist to do the work and one would assume they would not deface it, but being that it is a private arrangement between the two of them, he stated that he did not feel that there was much the city could do to stop a new owner from removing it. Mr. Croyle spoke of a mural in another city that a new owner of the building hung a large sign over, and Mr. Paul stated that there could possibly be some sort of agreement made, but that this type of thing would need to be discussed with city staff to see what limits could be placed, if any.

With no further Board comments or questions, Mr. Krochka closed the item to the city and opened it to the applicant.

Ms. Brenda Cummins – 138 Hunter Pkwy – thanked everyone for their efforts on this project. She stated that she is a Collide Board member and on other local boards. She stated that ArtsNow and the city are very supported by Nicole Mullet, and she informed everyone that the funds for this project will be administered by Collide, and they will be responsible for that portion of the project. She stated that the artist, Lizzi Aronhalt, has done many murals that last a long time and are very beautiful. She spoke of being impressed with the dialogue that has gone on between the city and Ms. Hartong, and stated that it was very thorough. She stated she is very excited about this, and that she can answer any questions.

Mr. Krochka then he closed the item to the applicant and opened it to the Board.

Mr. Mike Brillhart stated that he feels this is spectacular.

Mr. Croyle stated that he feels the 3 different art blocks are wonderful and a good management of space, with the 3 themes, and that he loves it.

Mr. Krochka stated that he helped select her work at the Valley View location, and it has been very enduring. He then asked Mr. Brent VanFossen, the building owner, what he will do to protect this if he sells the building such as a clause that requires it to remain there for a certain number of years or a covenant.

Mr. VanFossen – 2372 Providence Blvd. – owner of Metropolis Popcorn and location for the mural, stated that he has no plans or desire to sell, but if he did he would hate to see something happen to it. He stated that he is not sure if he could legally add anything to stop them from covering it, but that he just invested \$15k inside the building and is planning to put time and care on the outside too. He feels that it is a landmark for downtown, and that when he was not sure what was happening to the lot next door, he was afraid to invest in something like this, for fear it would end up covered up. Now he stated he will do all he can to maintain it for the longterm.

Mr. Krochka stated that he appreciates the longterm investment, and stated that if he sells, he would like to have him convey those feelings to the new owner and maybe come up with an agreement, but stated that he did not want the legal aspect to hold this up in any way.

Mr. Paul stated that he needs to communicate with other parties in order to get answers, but he too did not want to hold anything up for those answers.

Ms. Cummins stated that if it sells in 20 years and they want to remove it, she questioned if the city would have any say.

Mr. Paul stated that the Design and Historic Review Board will be looking at this mural too on 7-9-26 for a Certificate of Appropriateness, so this will be an added layer of protection to help keep it, if needed.

Mr. Krochka questioned if the DHRB has seen it yet, and Mr. Mark Gilles stated that it is on the agenda for next week.

Mr. Paul stated that it will be coming before the DHRB Board, but the language lets the approval of murals lie solely on this board, they will simply be looking at the attachment to the building.

Mr. Brillhart stated that the city still owns the lot on the corner, next to this, and questioned if there were still plans to sell it.

Mr. Paul stated that he thought this ended with the installation of Paddle Park, and he thought that improvement was permanent.

Discussion ensued about the lot.

Mr. Brillhart stated that he thought it could still be sold, even though that went in.

Mr. Paul stated that was not to his knowledge.

With no further comments or questions from the Board members, Mr. Krochka requested that a motion be made.

Mr. Sullivan made the following **MOTION**:

The City of Cuyahoga Falls Public Art Board moves to certify artist Lizzi Aronhalt's three-panel mural representing community, history, and nature, at 2164 Front St. for owner Brent VanFossen. The mural is depicted at the Metropolis Popcorn site on the side façade of the building, facing northward to Portage Tr. Certification is based on the facts and findings associated with file ART-26-00016.

The **MOTION** was **seconded** by Mr. Croyle.

With no further discussion, Mr. Krochka requested a **Vote. The Vote to APPROVE the item: Yes- 3, No- 0. (1 abstention- Molly Hartong) The MOTION is APPROVED with a vote of 3 to 0.**

MINUTES

April 2, 2026

With no comments or corrections, a **MOTION** was made by Mr. Croyle to **APPROVE** the minutes from April 2, 2026. The **MOTION was seconded** by Ms. Hartong. **The Vote to APPROVE: Yes- 4, No- 0. The MOTION CARRIED with a vote of 4-0.**

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Krochka wished everyone a Happy 4th of July. There was no other business at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** was made to **adjourn** the meeting by Mr. Tom Sullivan. The **MOTION was seconded** by Ms. Hartong. **The VOTE to APPROVE: Yes- 4, No- 0. The MOTION CARRIED with a vote of 4-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Minutes submitted by Lori Jones