

**CITY OF NORWALK
NORWALK ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES JULY 7, 2026
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

ATTENDANCE: Janay Sylvester, Chair; Melissa Matuska; Nori Grudin; Steven Rust; Saj Oliver; Kevin Huffman; Christina Bacigalupo; Bob Abriola (Arrived around 6:23 PM); Marc Alan.

STAFF: Sabrina Godeski.

OTHERS: Isa Ranci (Artist); Jeremy Williams (Traffic Graphic project).

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Janay Sylvester called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The Chair called the roll. Members present as noted above. Quorum established. (Note: Some audio connection issues noted for one member but presence confirmed.)

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: June 2, 2026

****MS. MATUSKA MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED.**

****MOTION SECONDED BY MR. RUST.**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public participation.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve the proposed design for the Traffic Graphic Box on Beach Road and authorize the payment and contract execution. Isa Ranci presented the design concept featuring Manresa Wilds and Calf Pasture Beach (morning and evening views) with themes of renewal, education, and marine life, proposed for the area near Marvin Elementary School (noted as the closest available location to the beach due to upcoming TMP work replacing boxes on East Avenue). Discussion included design refinements for better visibility if grass grows around the box (e.g., separating elements or enlarging the power plant depiction), morning/evening orientation for school arrival/departure ambiance, and location considerations (suggestions for closer to I-95 for greater prominence). Isa was open to adjustments and alternative locations. Sabrina Godeski confirmed no suitable boxes closer to the beach/95 due to replacement work.

****MS. SYLVESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE TO APPROVE THE DESIGN AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT AND CONTRACT EXECUTION.**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Approve the proposed design for the Traffic Graphic Box at the entrance of Jefferson Elementary School and authorize the payment and contract execution. The proposed design for the Jefferson Elementary School entrance traffic graphic box was presented and discussed as part of the traffic graphic approvals. (Details aligned with the overall project goals of highlighting Norwalk's history and future through public art.)

**** MS. SYLVESTER CALLED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DESIGN AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT AND CONTRACT EXECUTION.**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. Recap and discussion on Make Music Day and Jazz Festival. Ms. Godeski provided an update on the Make Music Day and Jazz Festival.

D. Discussion on NACC-hosted events. Continued discussion on potential future events and partnerships. Emphasis on commission members taking lead or co-lead roles for execution. Ideas included music events at various venues (Factory Underground noted for excellent sound/stage). Janay Sylvester noted a prior meeting with District Music Hall; they were open to ideas but seeking clear value/partnership terms beyond sponsorship. Further exploration planned for future meetings.

People's Gallery Project Update (raised under New Business/Other): Mr. Abriola and Mr. Alan provided an update on the ongoing project (previously allocated \$2,000 budget). Working on a dimensional installation concept using digital vinyl and foam core with QR codes linking to artist portraits, music, and informational content highlighting Norwalk artists and musicians. Budget may be insufficient for desired materials and scope; they will price out options and may request additional funding if needed. Final concept to be presented to the Mayor. Excitement expressed for the installation.

ADJOURNMENT

****MS. MATUSKA MOTIONED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

****MOTION SECONDED BY MR. ABRIOLA.**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Courtney Baldwin
Recording Secretary