



City of Biddeford
Public Art Commission

October 9, 2025 at 5:00 PM
City Hall Second Floor Conference Room & Zoom

[Join Zoom Meeting Online](#)

Or call in by phone: +1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 919 2466 4608

Passcode: 404786

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - 2.a Minutes from August 14, 2025 meeting
3. Discussion Items
 - 3.a Master Plan Sub-Committee Report
 - 3.b Commission Goals 2025-2026
 - 3.c Other Business
4. Adjourn

**City of Biddeford Public Art Commission
Meeting Minutes · August 14, 2025**

In attendance:

- Jessica Muise, Chair
- Commission: Coco Corral, Rebecca Cote, Braden Drypolcher, and Kim Largey
- Staff Liaisons: Lisa Thompson, Recreation Director and Erika Dube, Deputy Recreation Director

Absent: Councilor Dylan Doughty and Jane Harrell

- Commission Vacancy: student liaison

Meeting Called to Order: 5:07PM

Approval of July 2025 Minutes:

- Motion to Approve: Coco Corral
- Seconded: Jessica Muise
- Vote: Unanimously approved

Discussion Items

Commission Goal Setting for 2025-2026 and Establishing Ordinances/Guidelines for

Public Art: the committee discussed holding a workshop to set goals and identified the need to establish a Master Plan to support goal setting. The initial priority in developing the Master Plan is to establish processes for public art submissions, creating an application, policies, selection process, identifying project stakeholders, criteria, etc. Within the discussion, the group determined that establishing a sub-committee to work on the Master Plan development outside of the monthly meeting schedule would allow the Commission to expedite the process.

- A motion was made by Rebecca Cote to establish a sub-committee tasked with drafting the Master Plan
- Motion Seconded: Coco Corral
- Discussion:
 - Sub-committee members to include Jessica Muise, Brayden Drypolcher, and Erika Dube
 - Guidance and support from the Maine Arts Commission Program Director, Danielle Moriarty, has been offered

- Another potential resource is Sean King, City of Portland Urban Designer and staff liaison to the Portland Public Art Committee
- The sub-committee will also review policies from like-sized communities to determine what existing policies could translate as a model for Biddeford to adopt.
- Timeline for Master Plan draft: sub-committee meeting set for early September; draft or outline to be presented at September Public Art Commission meeting; additional phases to follow city processes (review by Policy Committee, legal counsel, etc).
- Vote: Unanimously approved

Commission Budget:

- Discussion regarding the timeline to be included in the next budget cycle was tabled pending additional information from City Council regarding budget/funds allocated to the Commission.
- Potential Funding Sources Brainstorm Discussion:
 - Developing a “Percent for Art” Ordinance or Policy. This concept was discussed within the group as a possible way to mirror existing community and state initiatives who have allocated a designated portion of the annual Capital Improvement Budget, ranging from 1-3%, towards Public Art.
 - Grant sources: work with the city grant writer to determine if the City or the Commission is eligible to apply for grants – examples: CDBG, Bloomberg Asphalt Art Initiative Grant.
 - Tiff District funding, potential Developer funds, hotel taxes, etc.

Communications Plan

- **Logo** – Discussion of logo development. City Seal used for commissions. Coco Corral has volunteered to design a logo for the Public Art Commission.
- **Website** – Content goals:
 - Develop a robust, aesthetic, interactive storymap that showcases existing public art/features an inventory of existing public art.
 - Identify and articulate priority sites for future public art installations to create equity of access to art across the city.
 - Cross-promote the artist directory on Art of Biddeford site.
 - Determine ways for the public to submit requests for public art.
 - Lisa will follow up with Danica Lamontagne from the City Manager’s office regarding policies for the Commission developing its own social media and

webpages or hosting some of the content discussed on existing city platforms.

Review of Incoming Requests

- New Life Church mural and Dizzy Birds building mural: Both projects were brought to the Commission to review; the Commission discussed clarifying its role in regard to public art in privately owned spaces, possibly providing guidance if requested and not necessarily being the arbiter of these projects. Art of Biddeford, an initiative within Heart of Biddeford, was identified as a possible resource to direct private businesses to in the downtown area.
- MERC Tower: this building is publicly owned and has been identified as a potential site for public art. The Commission discussed how they may be involved in the project development.
 - A motion was made by Kim Largey for Jessica Muise to draft an email to all City Councilors on behalf of the Commission to let them know the Public Art Commission would like to be involved in conversations about the development of MERC Tower art projects.
 - Seconded: Braden Drypolcher
 - No discussion
 - Vote: unanimously approved
- Discussion of small projects:
 - A Recap of the summer project conducted by the UNE Sustainability Fellowship through Heart of Biddeford was shared. The project collected community feedback during summer HOB events, and identified that the “River” and “Community” were the two priorities, with a goal of developing interactive public art along the river. Heart of Biddeford is currently working on a grant application for implementation, and the Commission discussed ways to support the project and city approval process.
 - Painted piano project: after discussion about the project in regard to program development, mission and inclusivity, the group ultimately decided not to move forward with the project at this time.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 5:00PM, City Hall, Second Floor Conference Room

Meeting Adjourned: 6:47PM