



**MINUTES
OXFORD PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION OF OXFORD
COURTHOUSE
118 WEST HIGH STREET
OXFORD, OHIO 45056
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2026 AT 5:30 PM**

Approval of Agenda

Members Present: Amber Franklin, Carole Katz, Therese Ehrnschwender, Bob Benson, Joe Squance, Harlan Schottenstein

Staff Liaison: Jessica Greene & Ashley Keeton

Talawanda School District Representatives for the Amtrak Mural RFQ: Dr. Tom Bailey & Dr. Andrea Faulkner

Approval of Agenda:

First: Bob

Second: Therese

Approved

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes:

First: Joe

Second: Carole

Approved

1. Minutes from the April 13th, 2026 Meeting

2. Minutes from the May 11th, 2026 Meeting

Business

Before beginning the Amtrak review, our newest member, Harlan Schottenstein introduced himself, and the representatives from Talawanda who will be part of the review committee for the Amtrak Mural introduced themselves.

1. Review Amtrak Platform Project Mural Submissions & Select Three Semi-Finalists

PACO Members + Talawanda Reps reviewed 30 submissions that came in from artists all over the country (and world!). Before the meeting, each reviewer sent in their top five (unranked) artists.

Based on all votes, the top 8 artists were compiled onto a spreadsheet to discuss each artist. Here are the top 8 artists, along with some general feedback on the artists style or past projects for each one:

- Alex Maksiov: Love the use of 3D, the way people pop out of the murals, the way they incorporate the environment into the mural, as well as the preservation methods mentioned in the RFQ
- Phil Seth Creative: Love his engagement with the community and with children, loved the impact of his murals, but overall the committee did not love the color palette picked for the Amtrak mural
- Key Detail: Julia & Andrey Kravtsov: Love the way their murals look great from up close or from far away which is important for the Amtrak mural since folks will be walking right beside it, but it will also be visible from Chestnut Street. Overall, they love how dense their murals are without being chaotic, the way they work with the dimensions of the building, and the color palettes that they choose to use.
- Damien Mitchell: Love the use of the buildings, love the story that his murals tell and how realistic the people look.
- Anytown Mural & Sign: Michael Ferrarell: Overall, they loved how well executed his murals are, but found them not to be bold enough and each style too similar to each other. They did not see enough range when compared to other muralists in the top eight.
- CE Mitchell Design: Carly Mitchell: They found that while the talent was clearly there, that not all of the past murals were as well-executed as they could have been.
- Chelsea Hart: Love her past projects, but in comparison to other artists, decided not quite right for the Amtrak Mural. Is interested in her sidewalk art for future calls for art.
- The Art of Life: Charles Clear & Bonnie Turner: Overall loved their murals, beautiful, bold and very well executed. However they are quite a bit out of our proposed budget for this project.

After narrowing to four artists, they voted for their top three to advance to the next round:

1. Alex Maksiov
2. Key Detail: Julia & Andrey Kravtsov
3. Damien Mitchell

The review team has asked staff to include additional information for the 3 semi-finalists as they begin their preliminary design concept:

- To be sure to take into account both the character of our city and the school district. The Talawanda representatives want to make sure that they consider the fact that the mural is on a TSD-owned building into consideration in their design.
- To let them know that preference may be given to artists who include a description of how community engagement or participation could be incorporated into the project.

2. Choose a Date for the Special Amtrak Mural Design Meeting in July

It was decided not to hold a special meeting in July for the artist to meet with the review committee.

Announcements

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 6:31 PM

First: Bob

Second: Harlan

Approved