

Dear Members of the North Port Art Advisory, Katrina Romano and Susan Hale,

I was extremely disappointed that we could not meet on Monday, June 10th due to lack of a quorum. That said, I understand that rules and laws are in place for a reason, even if, at times, it can be frustrating. Please forgive me and accept my apology if my ire came across as patronizing toward anyone. I was expressing my frustration after a considerable amount of preparation for the planned meeting.

Moving on, I would like to present the topics that I was prepared to present at the workshop. Please remember that these are all topics and suggestions to be decided on by the North Port Art Advisory.

First, it is my opinion that as we look to the ordinance that called us into being it should help us to solidify our identity. Therefore, I propose that we fine-tune our title to represent Ordinance # 2014-10 and, henceforth, be referred to as the North Port PUBLIC Art Advisory.

Second, I propose that as the North Port Public Art Advisory, WE are the curators of the art to be hung in North Port City Hall and the North Port Police Station (per (Ord. # 2014-10) and that the art will be changed on a quarterly basis:

- January 7th – March 31st curated by North Port Visual Art Center
 - City Hall – TBD by the NP Visual Art Center (must occupy ALL of Floor 1 & 2)
 - North Port Police Station – TBD by the NP Visual Art Center
- April 7th – June 31st curated by North Port Public Art Advisory
 - City Hall - North Port Students (Art at the Hall reception. TBD annually in April)
 - North Port Police Station – North Port Public Employees (including Educators, Law Enforcement Personnel, City Employees, etc.)
- July 7th – Sept 31st curated by North Port Public Art Advisory
 - City Hall – Local Artisans
 - Police Station – Local Artisans
- Oct 7th – Dec 31st curated by North Port City Employees
 - City Hall – Holiday Décor (curator: NP City Hall Employees)
 - North Port Police Station – North Port Students, Holidays Around the World (curator: NP Police Dept. Employees)

Third, in preparation for the Nov 16, 2019 unveiling/dedication of the Roseate Spoonbill Sculpture at the corner of Price and Sumter, the North Port Public Art Advisory is compelled to take part in the following activities:

- Decision to accept or reject invitation to visit the studio of artist Don Gialanella
- Social Media campaign regarding the Nov 16, 2019 art installation (to begin ASAP)
- Local Public Media campaign regarding the Nov 16, 2019 art installation
- Organization of the Nov 16, 2019 art installation unveiling event
 - Invitations/Publications (advertisement/campaign poster)
 - Speaker/Entertainment (Artist Intro & Dedication/ Music?)

- Media (North Port Sun, Local Radio, Harbor Magazine; ...?)
- Photographer (Monica Amaya)

Fourth, the North Port Public Advisory shall set forth a strategic plan for the development of PUBLIC art in the city of North Port. The strategic plan will include a visual identity theme/plan as well as a 1 year immediate plan and 5 year short term strategic plan for implementation of Public Art installations in keeping with said theme.

North Port Public Art Theme:

The City of North Port Public Art Advisory recommends that the visual art theme for public art installations will be Native Florida Flora and Fauna with concentration on the native flora and fauna of southwest Florida. In common areas, sculpture installations will be native Florida water birds and, in Public Parks and Public Schools, Gopher Tortoises. Mural Installations on public buildings will be native fauna set in scenes of native Florida flora or native Florida flora (genre variations will be encouraged). Provisions for exceptions to the theme might be made for site specific art installations (e.g.; North Port Skate Park, Braves Spring Training Facility, etc.). However any exceptions will be few and far between as the City of North Port seeks to maintain a strong visual identity.

Any and all artists participating shall be full or part-time Florida residents.

Fifth, as the next step in the 1 year strategic plan, the North Port Public Art Advisory will create and implement a Call to Artists for a public mural on the outside, western (?) wall of the North Port Senior Center.

Sixth, the North Port Public Art Advisory will identify ALL current public art installations in the City of North Port and will set forth a strategic plan to repair, maintain and promote current public art in the city of North Port.

Please know that these are all talking points and proposals, and I do not assume that any of these suggestions will become into being. However, lacking the current opportunity to collaborate in person, I felt compelled to present these points before our next meeting so that we might collaborate on-line. I hope that we can use this on-line forum to brainstorm and explore ideas before our next meeting, so that meeting can achieve maximum productivity.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

*Sincerely,
Laura Pucci*