



# Ocala

## Municipal Arts Commission

### Minutes

110 SE Watula Avenue  
Ocala, FL 34471

[www.ocalafl.gov](http://www.ocalafl.gov)

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Wednesday, October 2, 2024

4:00 PM

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1. Call To Order

a. Roll Call

**Present:** Emily Andrews  
Jaye Baillie  
Arnold Barbaro  
Jean Floten  
Leslie Hammond  
Natalie McComb  
Darian Mosley  
David Reutter  
Greg Thompson

**Absent:** Pedro "Tito" A. Comas

**Excused:** Brooke Hutto

2. Proof of Publication

The public notice for the Ocala Municipal Arts Commission Advisory Committee was posted on September 30, 2024.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. August 7, 2024 Minutes

**Attachments:** [OMAC 08.07.24 Draft Minutes](#)

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Natalie McComb

**SECONDER:** Emily Andrews

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Floten, Hammond, McComb, Mosley, Reutter and Thompson

**ABSENT:** Comas

**EXCUSED:** Hutto

4. Grants/Applications

a.

**Attachments:** [08MAY24 OMAC Grant Application SCA India Fest 2024](#)  
[08MAY24 OMAC Grant Application SCA India Fest 2024 Page](#)  
[08MAY24 SCA India Fest 2024 OMAC Grant Application](#)  
[IRS Determination LTR STRATEGICCOMMUNITYALLIANCEINC](#)

Dr. Shini Makhani, President and Co-Founder of the Strategic Community Alliance, 9111 SW 60th Court Rd, Ocala, FL 34476, provided an update on the Ocala Metro India Fest which is scheduled for October 5, 2024. On August 7, 2024, the Ocala Municipal Arts Commission (OMAC) awarded \$1,400 of the \$2,000 requested for the event, with the remaining \$600 tabled for consideration on October 2, 2024, due to FY2024 budget constraints. The festival is scheduled for October 5, 2024, from 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Citizens Circle. Makhani is now requesting approval for the remaining \$600 to fully fund the event.

Motion to approve the remaining \$600.00 grant to help fund the Ocala Metro India Fest which is scheduled on October 5, 2024, from 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Citizen Circle.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Jean Floten

**SECONDER:** Greg Thompson

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Floten, Hammond, McComb, Mosley, Reutter and Thompson

**ABSENT:** Comas

**EXCUSED:** Hutto

5. Project Updates

a. Heritage Trail panels - Accession

**Attachments:** [MEDIA RELEASE - New Date heritage trail panels](#)  
[Panel Install 1](#)  
[Panel Install 2](#)  
[Panel Install 3](#)  
[Panel Install 4](#)  
[Panel Install 5](#)  
[Panel Install 6](#)  
[Panel Install 7](#)  
[Panel Install 8](#)

Cultural Arts Supervisor Emily Parkman provided an update on the Heritage Trail mural panels, created by Charles Eady. These panels were officially unveiled to the public on September 3, 2024, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly completed Heritage Trail. Mrs. Parkman requested approval to officially accession the murals into the city's permanent collection.

Motion to approve the accession of the Heritage Trail murals into the City's permanent collection.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Natalie McComb

**SECONDER:** Leslie Hammond

- AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Floten, Hammond, McComb, Mosley, Reutter and Thompson
- ABSENT:** Comas
- EXCUSED:** Hutto
- b. Ground storage wank tank mural update

**Attachments:** [Ground storage water tank project](#)

Ms. Parkman shared an update on the Ground Storage Water Tank Mural. For this project, the City of Ocala partnered with Fine Arts of Ocala (FAFO), the Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation, and Ocala Main Street. The open call for submissions ended on September 12, 202. Over 100 submissions of these, 65 were deemed qualifying based on the requirements. A finalist list is being developed, and the jury will select the artist who will be awarded the \$60,000 for the mural. The official unveiling of the mural design will take place during the FAFO on Saturday October 26, 2024, at 9 a.m.

- c. 2025 Levitt AMP Ocala Music Series public art project proposal

**Attachments:** [2025 Levitt AMP art project](#)  
[MCA awning photo](#)

Ms. Parkman provided an overview of the 2025 Levitt AMP Ocala Music Series public art project proposal. Each year, in partnership with the Levitt AMP Ocala Music Series, a public art project is created. Last year's project featured skatepark panels. For 2025, the proposal involves redoing the American Cultural Alliance's awning for the Bricks City building.

The proposed project will feature 10 individual panels, with staff recommendations suggesting two panels be painted at a time during each concert. Five selected artists will each design two panels inspired by music genres featured during the Levitt AMP series. Various art forms inspired by the performance will be incorporated and community involvement will be integrated into the process.

Motion to approve 2025 Levitt Amp Ocala Music Series public Art Project.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Darian Mosley

**SECONDER:** Natalie McComb

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Floten, Hammond, McComb, Mosley, Reutter and Thompson

**ABSENT:** Comas

**EXCUSED:** Hutto

- d. 119 S Pine Ave | 2853-014-003 mural, My Quate, Chris Mendez update

**Attachments:** [Business and Owner Letter](#)  
[Chris Mendez Artist Statement](#)  
[mendez art1](#)  
[mendez art2](#)  
[mendez art3](#)  
[mendez art4](#)  
[pine ave mural Detail](#)  
[pine ave mural1](#)  
[Public Artist Project My Quate](#)

Ms. Parkman provided an update on the *My Quote* mural located at 119 South Pine Avenue. Upon informing the business owner of the approval process, he was reluctant to assume responsibility for the mural's maintenance, and the property owner was unaware of its installation. After further discussions, the artist and business owner reached an agreement that the artist would help with any necessary repairs or protection of the mural in case of vandalism or weather damage.

The artist and business owner subsequently contacted the property owner, who was fully informed and gave their consent for the mural to remain. Ms. Parkman requested that OMAC officially recognize the mural as public art, noting that while the mural is not city property, it should be recorded as part of the City's public art collection.

Motion to approve My Quate mural located at 119 South Pine Avenue as part of the City's art collection.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Arnold Barbaro

**SECONDER:** Natalie McComb

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Floten, Hammond, McComb, Mosley, Reutter and Thompson

**ABSENT:** Comas

**EXCUSED:** Hutto

6. Other Business

a. Current Balance of License Plate Grant Fund

Ms. Parkman provided an update on the current balance of the License Plate Grant Fund. The City of Ocala has allocated \$6,000 in the FY2025 budget for the grant, and the balance is \$8,145.72. Mrs. Parkman explained there is: a revenue account, which receives state license plate funds and remains unchanged, and an expense account, where the \$6,000 allocated for the current fiscal year is deposited. When the \$6,000 is spent, funds will be transferred from the revenue account to the expense account and distributed to the grantees.

b. New OMAC grant application forms

**Attachments:** [6. 2024 OMAC application](#)

Ms. Parkman provided an update on the grant application process, highlighting several

revisions made to the application. A copy of the updated application was distributed to members digitally and in physical form. Mrs. Parkman reviewed the changes, including the following key updates to:

- OMAC Logo
- Eligible Recipients
- New Applicants
- Public Accessibility
- Funding Criteria and Submittal Requirements
- Presentation Requirement
- 501(c)(3) Status
- OMAC Logo and Final Report
- Decision Notification
- Budget Template

Ms. Parkman acknowledged that this process is formal and requires adherence to established procedures but can be submitted.

c. City of Ocala Horse Fever collection

**Attachments:** [Horse Fever Horses1](#)  
[Horse Fever Horses2](#)  
[Horse Fever Horses3](#)  
[Horse Fever Horses4](#)  
[Horse Fever Horses5](#)  
[Horse Fever Horses6](#)

Mrs. Parkman provided an update on the City of Ocala's Horse Fever Collection, which includes both long-term loans and permanent pieces. The city currently has 12 horses, which are either on long-term loan or have been purchased or donated. All horses, receive maintenance and care by the City. All long-term loan horses are returned upon request. She reviewed the horses in the collection and state their locations.

d. City of Ocala Art Maintenance Fund

**Attachments:** [Community Foundation fund](#)

Ms. Parkman provided an update on the City of Ocala Public Art Maintenance Fund, which was established by Lisa Irwin through the Community Foundation. A 2025 project is in the works to increase funds, ensuring more resources for the maintenance and repair of the City's permanent art collection.

e. Deaccession Updates

**Attachments:** [9.13.2024 Removal](#)  
[Deaccession](#)

Ms. Parkman provided updates on the Crest of the Wave Sculpture, Natural Flow Mural and Marie and Jean Sculpture.

**f. OMAC Brochure**

Ms. Parkman discussed the need to update the current brochure, because it contains outdated information. The changes include updating the grant application process and the state-of-the-art license plate details. A suggested to create a new marketing materials or a brochure specifically for OMAC to inform the community about the board's role, available grants, and upcoming projects. These brochures will be distributed at cultural events such as the First Friday Art Walk. A separate meeting will be scheduled to discuss the brochure design and content further.

**g. OMAC FY2024 report to Council, November or December presentation**

Ms. Parkman provided an overview of the upcoming annual report to City Council. This report which will highlight OMAC's achievements for fiscal year 2024 and provide an update on future projects and art maintenance.

**7. Public Comments**

None

**8. Staff Comments**

None

**9. Board Comments**

None

**10. Next Meeting: December 4, 2024****11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.