

**ANIZDA Public Improvement Committee
MEETING MINUTES**

March 20, 2024

Allentown Art Museum
31 North Fifth Street, Allentown, PA

Attendance

Committee Attendees: Jane Heft, Seymour Traub, Esquire, and Jennifer Gomez. Absent were Pedro Torres (Chairperson) and Nelson Diaz.

Board Staff: Steve Bamford (Executive Director), Paul S. Frank, Esquire, (ANIZDA Solicitor) and Selma Ritter (Manager, Finance and Administration).

Presenters: Mark Hartney, Deputy Director of Community & Economic Development, City of Allentown.

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Seymour Traub, Esquire, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting had been dutifully advertised in advance. A quorum was met.
2. **Approval of September 29, 2023 Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the September 29, 2023 meeting minutes, as written, was made by J. Heft and seconded by J. Gomez. The public was given the opportunity to comment. No comment was received. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 3-0.
3. **Public Comment on all matters to be acted upon.** Comments were deferred until the matters were to be acted upon.
4. **Old Business.** None.
5. **New Business.**
 - a. **N. 8th St. and W. Linden St. Sidewalk Improvements – City of Allentown and City Center Investment Corporation.** S. Bamford provided a brief introduction to the project and the request for funding not to exceed \$830,000. The City of Allentown is the public property owner of the project and City Center Investment Corporation (“CCIC”) is the sponsor of the project.

The City was represented by Mark Hartney, Deputy Director of Community & Economic Development, City of Allentown. The sponsor was represented by Jill Wheeler, Vice President of External Relations, CCIC.

M. Hartney then described the existing N. 8th St. and W. Linden St. streetscape conditions and new proposed improvements. The improvements would be a continuation of the previous streetscape projects along Hamilton, which would provide consistency throughout the downtown. The improvements would include new landscaping, street trees, lighting, new curbing and sidewalks, and trash and recycling receptacles. Lighting enhancements will be installed on the exterior of the parking garage along Linden Street. No funds were requested for the parking kiosks because they were previously funded by ANIZDA. The kiosks will be temporarily removed during the construction and then reinstalled. The overall estimated budget for this project is \$823,903.

If the project is approved by the ANIZDA Board, design would commence in April 2024, with completion expected in June 2025.

S. Bamford explained ANIZDA funds approved public improvement projects through a \$10,000,000 line of credit (“LOC”) from People’s Security Bank & Trust (“Peoples”). Currently, ANIZDA is in negotiations with Peoples to extend the maturity date of the LOC. To date, there is approximately \$23,600,000 in approved projects and ANIZDA paid out \$14,700,000.

A motion to recommend the N. 8th St. and W. Linden St. Sidewalk Improvements Streetscape Project proceed to the ANIZDA Board for consideration was made by J. Gomez and seconded by J. Heft. The public was given the opportunity to comment. No comment was received. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

6. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pedro Torres, Chairperson