



Public Art Commission of Truckee Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2025, 2024, 4:00 PM

Town Hall – Administrative Center | 10183 Truckee Airport Road, Truckee, CA

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Corliss; called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Commissioners: Jennifer Standteiner (**arrived at 4:25**), Steve Thompson, Molly Moore, Colleen Connors, Vice Chair, Carole Sesko, and Chair Troy Corliss.

Absent: Commissioner Cutler.

Staff Present: Becky Bucar, Public Works Director, Nola Mitchell, Associate Engineer, and Alfred Knotts, Assistant Public Works Director.

- Nola Mitchell, Associate Engineer, introduced Colleen Connors, and Alfred Knotts.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Keep in mind that we can bring unsuccessful applicants in as volunteers.

4. **PRESENTATIONS**

- 4.1 Future Forest Cultural Trail Presentation by Michael and Heather Llewellyn**

Missy Mohler (SWEP) presented:

- Combining art with environment and service projects.
- SWEP has partnered with Heather and Michael in the past for the Forest Fires exhibit.
- Important to start the Future Forest Cultural Trail in Truckee because Truckee is “Ground zero” for forest restoration.
- Students will be involved in this project.

Michael Llewellyn presented:

- They are art activists, and they create public engagement in the form of interpretive exhibits that are intended to engage communities in social or environmental issues.
- The Forest Fire exhibit was their last project; it was a cultural shift with storytelling in the exhibit. The story told what the forest was, what happened, what it became, and what we can do.
- For the Future Forest Cultural Trail, 11 trailheads are proposed, and each trailhead is a chapter in history.
- The first trailhead should be in Truckee, and the proposed location is the future Truckee Regional Library.

- The stations are in shape and size of old growth trees: 8 feet diameter, trailhead 14 feet diameter, and 20 feet tall. Fire-proof and weatherproof and made of steel with ceramic tile stories.
- Art proposed to be at the new Truckee Regional Library near the Truckee River Legacy Trail and near the road, so it is visible. Partner with TDRPD (provides the land), SWEP (educational programming), Friends of the Public Library, and Nevada Museum of Art.

PACT Discussion:

- The goal is to eventually have a sculpture at each station. There are 11 proposed stations.
- Don't need to do all trailhead sculptures at once.
- Within each sculpture is art and text to tell the story at each location.
- The art is ADA Accessible.
- Each year kids will create artwork and put into each spire. There are 24 spires, so this can go for a 24-year time period before starting over.
- Each tree has a different theme (perhaps use Washoe names for places) but the Truckee piece provides an overview. Maybe each place has its own symbol.
- Brings art and science and outreach in one place.
- The foundations around the art will be heated for accessibility.
- This is a ready-made opportunity for nature journaling for youth.
- Artwork Materials: The (column) spires are hollow steel, the concrete base is covered by stone, the stone base could be permeable.
- The project still needs funding.
- The library is excited about the project.
- Sven from TDRPD is supportive, but the project has not gone to the TDRPD board.
- Nevada Museum of Art is interested.
- Collin Robertson worked on State of Nevada Recreational Plan and is interested in being a proof of concept for the project.
- The Llewellyn's are bringing this to PACT to make PACT aware of the project and Jen Callaway suggested they present it to PACT.
- Sarah Smith also recommended SWEP be involved in this project.
- Other specific sites for sculptures have not been determined yet, except for site #11 at Sagen is specifically defined.
- Llewellyn's would like to construct the Future Forest Cultural when the new Truckee Regional Library is built in Truckee since this is the location for the artwork and they can take advantage of the mobilized contractor.
- It has not been determined who would carry on this project beyond the Llewellyn's since this is a multi-year, long-term project.

4.2 Staff Updates

Nola Mitchell, Assistant Engineer, presented the staff updates.

- Updates given on the Temporary art program, Church Street/Truckee Way roundabout, Public Art Network, and October 15th DEWBHEYUMUWE? PARK ribbon cutting.

Regarding Public Art Network:

- Colleen (new email) and Steve need accounts.
- Troy needs to update his email.
- Can Sarah give us some information on customizing settings?
- Alfred and Nola need logins.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Vice Commissioner Sesko, and seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to approve the Consent Calendar:

5.1 Minutes of August 5, 2025.

Recommended Action: Approve Minutes.

The Consent Calendar carried with the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Thompson, Vice Chair Sesko, Commissioner Standteiner, Commissioner Connor, Commissioner Moore, and Chair Corliss.

Noes: None.

Absent: Commissioner Cutler.

Abstained: None.

The motion passed 6 - 0.

No public comment.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Town Hall Temporary Art Wall.

Staff Recommendation: That the Public Art Commission of Truckee (PACT) review the identified questions and topics and decide whether PACT would like to manage the temporary art space in the second-floor hallway. If so, staff requests that PACT provide direction on the next steps.

Commission Discussion:

- Discussion about how many people see the second-floor hallway in Town Hall. Most visibility during meetings, including Town Council, PACT, and more.
- Tahoe Truckee Unified School District (TTUSD) has art teachers at Glenshire Elementary, Truckee Elementary, and Sierra Expedition Learning School (SELS).
- Not sure about Arts for the Schools or Fox Cultural Hall.
- Discussion if students with art displayed would tell people and attract more people.
- Art teachers would love spaces to show youth art.
- Discussion about who is managing exhibits at the Truckee Donner Recreation and Parks District (TDRPD) Community Center. PACT was not sure but thought TDRPD was managing it internally.
- Truckee Public Arts Commission (TPAC) started with schools and rotated the art exhibit every 6 months or so.
- Discussion if Truckee Cultural District (TCD) would want to manage this space with rotating exhibits. Do they have capacity to do this?
- Some staff capacity to help with the rotating exhibit, but this takes away from other projects.
- Suggestion to open it up to TTUSD and the teachers.

- Someone would need to keep track of the exhibit space, but the teachers would lead.
- 6 months is a long time to have art displayed. It is hard to return the art to kids. 4 months is a good amount of time to display.
- Installation and de-installation are not a big deal, but the coordination takes a lot of work and time.
- Use TCD to facilitate the rotating or similar entity.
- Use town staff to coordinate teachers.
- Without a curator or Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) person, the space could get really random.
- This is an opportunity for temporary art, but we need some oversight.
- Good idea but concerned with cost and getting volunteers is hard.
- Likes idea of TCD if they are interested because this would compete against other PACT projects if PACT and Town staff run.
- Supports the hallway for a youth art space. Possibly split costs with TCD.
- Good concept and we need to find out if TCD wants to be involved.
- Great place for youth art, but we need a point person. Does not want to see PACT funding to go to that space. There was a RITA show, and kids were so excited and no funding from PACT was used.
- Concept of place for youth art is great. Love seeing art in airports. Not sure how PACT fits in since we need a curator. If everyone is in charge, nobody ends up being in charge.
- Don't want to use PACT money to pay someone to facilitate the rotating art in the hallway.
- Commissioner Cutler would need to recuse herself from future discussion regarding TCD due to potential conflict of interest.
- The hallway could be used to showcase PACT artwork installation photos or use as a project/spin off space. Could be used for the Future Forest Cultural Trail or to tell the story of PACT.

Chair Corliss opened Public Comment.

Seeing none, Chair Corliss closed public comment.

Commission Direction:

Staff to follow up and reach out to TCD and TDRPD. Staff will return with some options for PACT to consider.

6.2 Future Agenda Items

- Continuation of Town Hall rotating exhibit discussion.
- Lorenzo has a Warming stripes car art project that needs a permanent home. This could be a presentation. Molly will let us know.
- Art Inventory discussion on photos for new art or replacing some photos.
- Future Forest - let that sit until they have a specific request.
- Maybe move Conservation and Maintenance Plan up.

6. COMMISSION REPORTS

- Commissioner Standteiner – The Standteiner artwork sculpture is being installed in DEWBEYÚMUWE? PARK. The baseplate is being installed today.
- Commissioner Thompson – The Tahoe Symphony Orchestra and chorus (TOCCATA) is doing a messiah show in Incline Village on Friday. The Community Theater is doing Matilda next month.
- Commissioner Moore – The Steam show is October 22 (5-7pm). This include The Boys and Girls Club, SELS, Truckee High and Glenshire Elementary.
- Commissioner Connors – No updates.
- Vice Chair Sesko – Tony and Troy’s sculptures are being installed at DEWBEYÚMUWE? PARK. Nancy Lopez’s art is being installed in the Truckee Springs, and the stone piece base is installed. Brass elements will be going in soon (Washoe baskets).
- Chair Corliss – Working on his sculptures for in DEWBEYÚMUWE? PARK. He went to the Business of Arts Symposium, and it was great.

7. ADJOURNMENT – 6:08 p.m.

To the regular meeting of the Public Art Commission of Truckee, December 2, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 10183 Truckee Airport Road, Truckee, CA.

Nola Mitchell
Associate Engineer