



Arts Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR CHEUK called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR CHEUK and COMMISSIONERS BEDNARCZYK, ROBERTS (via teleconference and excused until 4:03 p.m.), KLEVEN, HACKETT-MORGAN (via teleconference), WESTFIELD (excused until 4:02 p.m.), DOUGLAS, DE SANTIS (via teleconference), CHI, LEE, BEALS, and PORTNOY

ALSO PRESENT: LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Section Manager; MARY SABO and HOLLY LAY, Visual Arts Specialists II; VAL STEED, Chief Deputy City Attorney; and YVETT LOZOYA, Deputy City Clerk

2. Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations in accordance with the noticing standards as outlined in NRS 241.020: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; the City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov; and the Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov.

3. Public Comment: Comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters on the agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:

None.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of the Arts Commission and the Education Subcommittee of the Arts Commission Meeting of January 16, 2025

Motion made by Terry Chi to Approve

Passed For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Suzanne Hackett-Morgan, Heather Bednarczyk, Sapira Cheuk, Joan De Santis, Terry Chi, Pauline Lee, Fawn Douglas, Jennifer Kleven, Carmen Beals, Neal Portnoy; Excused-Eric Roberts, Monique Westfield;

5. Report by Sapira Cheuk, Arts Commission Chair, regarding monthly summary of current initiatives, cultural events and opportunities – All Wards

Minutes:

CHAIR CHEUK reviewed the list of exhibitions and cultural events taking place throughout the city, which included: the opening reception of the People of Color exhibition, Concert in the Park: Korabo Taiko, the opening reception of Vacancy, What is Flaneurd? A Conversation with MATT HODGES, Director of Art & Experience at Speigelworld, and StorySLAM Presents Inked: Stories about our Tattoos. She provided details

regarding event exhibit dates, locations, and artists, noting additional information could be found at www.artslasvegas.org or by calling 702-229-ARTS.

COMMISSIONER BEALS shared Sahara West Library opened the exhibition Recollections by HAYK ADAMYAN, and he said the Obodo Collective would open their store on February 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS stated LOLITA DEVELAY'S High Roller Blooms was on exhibit Thursdays and Fridays from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Nuwu Art Gallery + Community Center. The Commissioner advised the last Weaving Wednesdays session would be on February 26th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and hosted by RATA ELMORE, who would share Maori practices from New Zealand. UNLV's (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) Department of Art will host several midway and thesis events by artists from BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts) and MFA (Masters of Fine Arts) programs. She said the closing reception for BAILEY ANDERSON would be held on February 26th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., which is also on view at the Donna Beam Gallery Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. On March 3rd-14th DAN HERNANDEZ will be at the Grant Hall Gallery and KARLA LAGUNAS, American Girl, at the Donna Beam Gallery, with both receptions being held on March 7th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Further, MS. LAGUNAS' work will be on view Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Lastly, COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS confirmed the Obodo Collective's store opening on February 22nd and stated it was more than just a grocery store, as it was a step towards food sovereignty, health equity, and community resilience.

COMMISSIONER KLEVEN announced The Veil by Q'SHAUNDRA JAMES was on view until April 5th.

CHAIR CHEUK noted two FY (Fiscal Year) 26 grant opportunities from the Nevada Arts Council, which included the Arts Learning Project Grant for non-profit organizations and public institutions to support arts learning that closes on April 1st at 5:00 p.m., and the \$3,000 Project Grant for Artists that closes on March 3rd at 5:00 p.m. Additional information can be found at www.nvartscouncil.org.

6. Report by Cultural Affairs staff regarding a monthly summary of current initiatives – All Wards

Minutes:

LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Section Manager, and HOLLY LAY and MARY SABO, Visual Arts Specialists II, shared in narrating a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, regarding current projects and artistic opportunities. Additionally, MS. LAY noted the Commissioners received the staff report with updates for Percent for the Arts projects, a copy of which was submitted for the record.

Upcoming Arts Commission Schedule - MS. LAY stated the next Commission meeting would be held on March 20th at 4:00 p.m. and recommended signing up for the Public Art and Galleries Newsletter to receive information about receptions, events and opportunities.

Public Art and Gallery Program Open Call for Artists - MS. LAY listed two open calls for artists, including Las Vegas Perspectives and Celebrating Life! 2025.

3 on Main Sculpture Project - MS. LAY reported an evaluation panel of community members and art professionals selected three artists to create sculptures for the 3 on Main program. She was working on contracting with artists DAVID FAY, ROSS TAKAHASHI, and VEZUN, noting the sculptures would be installed by fall of 2025 and on view for two years.

Civic Center Plaza Public Art Project - MS. MACHADO advised that Cliff Garten Studio completed their three project milestones. The pedestal for the sculpture was poured on February 5th and was ready for installation, which would take place in May 2026.

Conservation and Maintenance - MS. SABO reported they continuously address conservation and maintenance issues as they arise. Additionally, staff secured services from Test Site Projects to frame artworks and worked with Abbott Trophies to create plaques for artworks in the City's collection.

Conservation and Maintenance - Murals at Doug Selby Park - MS. SABO stated they were notified of graffiti on murals at Douglas A. Selby Park, which were completed in partnership with Life is Beautiful in 2021. Staff was

unable to remove the graffiti without damaging the underlying mural; however, they were coordinating with artist ERIC VOZZOLA to repair, repaint, and reapply protective coating to the mural.

Conservation and Maintenance - Paintbrush Gateway - MS. MACHADO said the request for proposals (RFP) to restore the Paintbrush Gateway by DENNIS OPPENHEIM closed on January 9th with three submissions received. The evaluation panel selected a vendor and the Purchasing Division was determining next steps.

FY (Fiscal Year) 25 Artwork Inventory - MS. SABO noted their team conducts an annual inventory of all artwork in the City's collection and updates the collection management system, Past Perfect Online. The annual inventory is reported to the City's Finance Department, and MS. SABO said they were 40 percent complete with the FY25 inventory.

Listos y Seguros Sculpture by Justin Favela - MS. LAY reported that JUSTIN FAVELA presented at the last Commission meeting, where his proposal was approved. They were finalizing the scope for the second contract.

Lunar New Year: Year of the Snake - MS. LAY stated the Lunar New Year: Year of the Snake reception had a wonderful turnout with over 60 artists in attendance, which will be on view through April 2025.

Mexican Mythologies: Past & Present - MS. LAY advised they had the reception of the third annual Mexican Consulate collaborative exhibition, which will be on view until May 2025.

Mirabelli Community Center Mural Project - MS. SABO said Mirabelli Community Center staff selected three artists from the pre-qualified muralists list as semi-finalists for the project. The artists will be issued a request for proposals, scheduled to visit the site, and meet with staff to discuss community engagement opportunities and project goals. Their full proposals will be due in April with a presentation date to be announced.

Medical District Public Art Projects - MS. LAY acknowledged Brainstorm by WAYNE LITTLEJOHN was in production and would be installed in front of the UNLV Dental School on Shadow Lane. They were looking for a viable location for The Healer by LUIS VARELA-RICO. Additionally, Star Child by MARK BRANDVIK was in fabrication and would be installed on the northeast corner of Shadow Lane and Wellness Way.

People of Color, Curated by Brent Holmes - MS. SABO announced that People of Color would be in the City Hall Chamber Gallery. She explained the exhibition is a survey of African-American artists in Nevada and would be open through August 7th.

The Seed Sculpture by CR2 - MS. SABO advised staff was working with the artist team, who received input from the Public Works Department to scale the sculpture down to align with the budget and consider Plaza usage by First Friday. Their engineering package is due to the Building and Safety Department by March 26th. MS. SABO noted the rendering's colors shown in the presentation were not the sculpture's colors and were used to show different elevations on the final sculpture.

Westside Education & Training Center Public Art Projects - MS. SABO announced ADOLFO GONZALEZ was selected for the projects to create an original sculpture and mural for the center. Both contracts had been executed and work on the mural would begin in May, while the engineering package for the sculpture was in development. Both projects were expected to be installed by Fall 2025.

COMMISSIONER CHI questioned if there was an opportunity for Commissioners to join staff during an audit of the locations. MS. SABO responded she was unsure how it would work, as the audits were split amongst all staff members and was difficult to schedule. MS. MACHADO informed the Commissioner of the five-mile public art walking tour, which focuses on downtown from City Hall, Symphony Park, and 3rd Street. She believed the walking tour would be more accessible than joining staff in the field, and she confirmed for COMMISSIONER LEE that more information could be sent to the Commissioners. COMMISSIONER CHI wondered how many Commissioners would be considered a quorum for the walking tour together, and YVETT LOZOYA, Deputy City Clerk, confirmed seven was a quorum.

7. Discussion for possible action regarding the extension of the artistic services agreement for the sculpture Enriched Heritage by artist Adolfo Gonzalez, located at 1300 C Street (Not-to-Exceed \$3,000 of the General Fund) – Ward 3 (Diaz)

Minutes:

LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Section Manager, stated the Commission previously approved the one-year extension for the temporary sculpture, and this item would approve the \$3,000 budget to move forward with the artist's contract.

Motion made by Suzanne Hackett-Morgan to Approve

Passed For: 12; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Suzanne Hackett-Morgan, Heather Bednarczyk, Sapira Cheuk, Eric Roberts, Joan De Santis, Terry Chi, Pauline Lee, Monique Westfield, Fawn Douglas, Jennifer Kleven, Carmen Beals, Neal Portnoy;

8. **Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items.** Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual members shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether or not such proposed item are within the purview of the Commission and/or whether such proposed items shall be placed on a future agenda. No discussion regarding the substance of any such proposed topic shall occur and no action shall be taken.

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER PORTNOY said Boston was known for champions, and Las Vegas was evolving as the entertainment capital of the world with two championship teams. He believed the Commissioners should artistically recognize world champions in the city. Further, he stated there were many talented muralists, sculptors, and illustrators who could make the city greater. COMMISSIONER CHI wondered if the Commissioner meant sculptures, which COMMISSIONER PORTNOY said sculptures were one way and listed other pieces from different cities. He noted he had a large mural at Allegiant Stadium, noting the original drawing is a high-resolution wallpaper.

COMMISSIONER LEE felt COMMISSIONER PORTNOY'S discussion was interesting and questioned if it was less expensive to have something other than a mural completed. COMMISSIONER PORTNOY responded a high-resolution scan could be completed for \$100; however, the artist would still need compensation for the rendering. He stated the size of the drawing he completed for the Las Vegas Raiders, noting the NFL (National Football League) sent their contract to the Commissioner; therefore, they owned the drawing. However, he opined the City could look into owning the original art and future reproductions.

CHAIR CHEUK asked staff to explore how it could fit into the Art Master Plan. MS. MACHADO confirmed with COMMISSIONER PORTNOY they would have an agenda item to discuss a new project with the theme of recognizing athletics.

COMMISSIONER HACKETT-MORGAN mentioned the loss of the Governor's Art Award in Nevada and wondered if the Commission could consider reinstating it as a way to recognize people for their cultural work. She believed it used to be a program for the Nevada Arts Council.

9. **Citizens Participation:** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission. No subject may be acted upon by the Commission unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion on any single subject, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:

LIGHTNING YUMEKU stated the Collaborative Artists Network (CAN) was officially open, and their next meeting was on the 27th and will be the last Thursday of each month going forward. He stated there would be a juried art event in Tivoli Village in July. MR. YUMEKU noted further events could be found on their website and Facebook page. He thanked the Commissioners for their support and said they will change and enhance Las Vegas using workshops, events, and working with other art groups throughout Las Vegas. For COMMISSIONER BEALS, MR. YUMEKU said he would provide their website information to staff.

10. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

This meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Yvett Lozoya, Deputy City Clerk



Jennifer Kleven, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN NRS 241.020:

The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov

The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor