



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, KLEVEN, WESTFIELD, DOUGLAS (via teleconference), DE SANTIS, CHI, BEALS, and PORTNOY

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONER LEE

ALSO PRESENT: LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Section Manager; MARY SABO, Senior Visual Arts Specialist; HOLLY LAY, Visual Arts Specialist 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 March 20, 2025

Motion made by Heather Bednarczyk to Approve

Passed For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1

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

5. Report by Sapira Cheuk, Arts Commission Chair, regarding a 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: an artist reception for Windows on First: THE NEON LAKE by BAILEY ANDERSON on April 24th, Art in the Park on May 10th, and the Celebrating Life! 2025 Awards Reception on May 29th. She provided further details regarding event times and locations, noting additional information could be found at www.artslasvegas.org or by calling 702-229-ARTS.

COMMISSIONER BEALS stated ASAP (Available Space Art Projects) was presenting Liberty Crochet Mural Nevada X A Woman's Worth by AILENE PASCO that day at 6:00 p.m. at the Couch in the Desert and MICHELLE PATRICK was opening her exhibition Grace at the West Las Vegas Library.

COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS announced artist DIANE BUSH would lead a button making workshop for the National Day of Resistance on April 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Nuwu Art Gallery + Community Center. The Paiute Spring Festival will be held on May 3rd at Downtown Summerlin from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will include local demonstrations from Pow Wow Dancers, Bird Singers, art workshops, and native art vendors. Additional events taking place at the Nuwu Art Gallery + Community Center included Final Friday and the closing exhibition of LOLITA DEVALAY'S High Roller Blooms on April 25th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Native Bound/Unbound: Gathering, Storytelling, Remembrance, led by DR. A.B. WILKINSON and DR. ESTEVAN RAEL-GALVEZ on April 30th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Further, the You Are This Universe exhibition will be held at the Couper Russ Studios by invitation only.

On behalf of the Nevada Arts Council, CHAIR CHEUK noted the Nevada Heritage Fellowship and the Artist Fellowship Award were open, each with an award amount of \$5,000 for an individual. The application for both fellowships will close May 1st at 5:00 p.m.

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

Minutes:

LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Section Manager, MARY SABO, Senior Visual Arts Specialist, and HOLLY LAY, Visual Arts Specialist II, shared in narrating a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, regarding current projects and artistic opportunities. Additionally, MS. SABO 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. SABO stated the next Commission meeting would be held on May 15th at 4:00 p.m. Additionally, there will be no Arts Commission meetings for the months of June or July, and a meeting will be held on August 21st at 4:00 p.m.

Public Art Tour for Arts Commissioners - MS. SABO announced there will be two public art tours with groups of six Commissioners to adhere to quorum guidelines. One tour is scheduled for October 29th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and the second tour date is to-be-determined for Spring 2026. She noted the first Commissioners to RSVP via e-mail will be accepted for the first tour date. COMMISSIONER PORTNOY questioned what the tour will include, and MS. SABO responded the Commissioners will be touring the public art collection around the valley.

Public Art and Galleries Newsletter - MS. SABO recommended signing up for the Public Art and Galleries Newsletter to receive information about events and initiatives.

Public Art and Gallery Program Open Call for Artists - MS. SABO stated the annual Celebrating Life! Juried exhibition's call for artists closes April 24th.

3 on Main Program - MS. LAY reported contracts were finalized for the three artists selected for the 3 on Main rotating temporary sculpture program. The project is aimed at fostering emerging public artists and sculptors working to build a resume for larger future public art installations. Staff was excited to work with three local artists that are not represented in the City's permanent collection including: DAVID FAY, ROSS TAKAHASHI, and VEZUN. The artworks will be installed this summer and will remain on view for two years.

Aerial Gallery Banner Program - MS. MACHADO said staff was working on another iteration of the Aerial Gallery Banner Program. The Public Art and Gallery Program will partner with eight local artists for the 2025 banner installation, which will be installed along the First Street Art Trail by December 2025.

Civic Center Building Interior Public Art Project - MS. MACHADO noted staff was working on the Civic Center Building Interior Public Art Project and four artists had been commissioned to create artwork for the new interior space. She stated GIG DEPIO completed a 12-foot by 12-foot oil painting in March, and artist FAWN DOUGLAS was nearly finished with a four-foot by four-foot sculptural woven basket to be installed on the

second floor of the building. Additionally, VALENTIN YORDANOV completed a nine-foot by eight-foot painting in April, and SEBASTIEN COURTY continued to fabricate a seven-foot by six-foot media piece for the building. There was a slight delay in the building's construction and the artwork is set to install in June 2025.

Civic Center Plaza Second Sculpture Public Art Project - MS. MACHADO stated staff was working with KRYSTAL RAMIREZ, who had completed her first project milestone. The project engineer was working to complete the structural engineering, calculations, and drawings so that MS. RAMIREZ'S contractor could submit them to the Building and Safety Department for review and approval in May 2025. The project is set to be installed in July or August.

Conservation and Maintenance - MS. SABO reported they conduct routine condition assessments and inventory reports on items in the collection. The public is encouraged to contact publicart@lasvegasnevada.gov with any concerns related to conservation, maintenance, or graffiti.

Conservation and Maintenance - Paintbrush Gateway - MS. SABO advised that a vendor was selected for the restoration of the Paintbrush Gateway sculptures. The contract is currently under review with the vendor.

Conservation and Maintenance - Living Black Pillars - MS. SABO said they coordinated with RLA Conservation to clean the Living Black Pillars by artist CHASE McCURDY.

Conservation and Maintenance - Murals at Doug Selby Park - MS. SABO stated they worked with artist ERIC VOZZOLA to complete repairs to the Life is Beautiful partnership murals at Douglas A. Selby Park.

Mirabelli Community Center Mural Project - MS. SABO noted design proposal presentations were held for the project and three semi-finalists presented with great community engagement elements. The evaluation panel would continue to review the materials and submit their feedback and scores to MS. SABO. Notifications will be sent out to the awarded artist.

Public Art Education Series - MS. MACHADO said the Public Art Program hosted a Contracting Best Practices for Artists workshop, presented by student attorneys from the Economic Justice and Small Business Clinic at UNLV's (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) William S. Boyd School of Law on April 3rd. The class was designed to help artists navigate the complexities of legal contracts. The workshop was successful with overwhelming attendance and a survey was conducted with limited responses; however, all responses were positive.

The Seed Sculpture by CR2 - MS. SABO advised they were working with the artist group CR2 to develop The Seed Sculpture for the Boulder Plaza. The structural engineering plans were completed and submitted to the Building and Safety Department. The contract modification was still being worked on for finalization, and the updated completion date for the project is March 2026.

Westside Education & Training Center Public Art Projects - MS. SABO noted they were working with artist ADOLFO GONZALEZ on a mural and sculpture. MR. GONZALEZ'S engineered drawings were under review with the Building and Safety Department, and staff was awaiting approval to get started on the mural project.

7. Presentation by Scott Proctor and Robert Park, Nevada Art Printers, regarding high-resolution scanning and printing services (No Fiscal Impact) - All Wards

Minutes:

SCOTT PROCTOR utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, and stated the theme of the presentation was thinking outside traditional mediums for public art, such as murals and sculptures. He opined any City vehicle could be a platform for art and could be applied only to a smaller section, such as the windows. He stated different applications work for different vehicles, opining that anything could be wrapped. Additionally, any public wall space could be cost-effectively converted to display art. He thought it was good that staff worked with public art on pole banners, which he felt was a fantastic way to display different artists. He advised there is a one-time installation of aluminum frames that are light and thin, and graphics are printed on fabric that could be easily interchangeable so that new art could be installed for special events. MR. PROCTOR stated graphics produced on windows would not affect the ability for people on the inside to see outside. The interior applications could be translucent material, solids, or a combination of both. Digital wallpaper was considered a more permanent application to a public wall space and a great alternative to traditional painted murals. In theory, the same artwork could be used in multiple locations. An

example shown from the presentation was an artist commissioned to create art for a corporate headquarters. The originals were scanned and printed on different materials, such as walls and windows. Floor graphics were also a great alternative and did not need to be on concrete or stone, as carpet could also be utilized with new technologies. Some example applications included an application for Life is Beautiful and an interior application for public space. MR. PROCTOR noted existing structures were a good source to be converted for art, such as Capital One utilizing a commercial application on their space. A study was completed to determine what other materials could be added, and a mesh material was used and attached to an existing structure with very little cost. He explained that material could be printed on 80/20 mesh with grommets for fences, which is easy to install and change. MR. PROCTOR reiterated that anything could be a public art space, including a container, utility pole or box.

COMMISSIONER KLEVEN asked about the durability of material used for utility boxes and floors. MR. PROCTOR responded that floors have a shorter life span; however, depending on the lamination and adhesives used the material could last for months or years.

COMMISSIONER PORTNOY thanked MR. PROCTOR for speaking. He mentioned a discussion at the last Commission meeting regarding artists getting paid for their artwork, and he cited an option of being paid a licensing fee to get the art reproduced in different ways. He asked MR. PROCTOR to speak on behalf of his company's costs to produce and install, which MR. PROCTOR noted was a radical fraction of the budgets he saw. MR. PROCTOR believed the artist could still be compensated as they should, and the artwork could be reproduced and installed in multiple locations for people to view. The Commissioner referenced a time he received a licensing fee and kept his original artwork, and the client paid MR. PROCTOR for the installation at a fraction of the cost to paint a mural. MR. PROCTOR stated another more cost-effective application for a public space would be an aluminum frame application used with new fabric printing technology.

COMMISSIONER CHI believed she knew MR. PROCTOR from her time with Vegas PBS and asked if he changed companies. MR. PROCTOR confirmed the previous company he worked for was acquired and changed what they were doing, so he moved to a 27-year-old, privately-owned company. He noted all capabilities were the same between companies and they created a way to print custom texture.

ROBERT PARK, Nevada Art Printers, said his company makes art reproductions that are not advertised locally for galleries in the United States, Canada, Iceland, Hawaii, and Japan. They specialize in high-end, super-resolution art reproduction and many of the pieces range up to \$60,000. Regarding graphics and banners, MR. PARK expressed enthusiasm to get things out to people on a larger scale, which he considered as advertising and building the perception of a city. He believed the city was inundated with entertainment show ads, and he felt there was an opportunity to build the image of Las Vegas towards the arts. Additionally, he referenced iconic art cities, including Sedona, Santa Fe, Park City, and Laguna Beach, noting art was everywhere you looked. He said there were galleries in casinos with multi-million dollar original pieces. MR. PARK emphasized the importance of digitizing art, and he recommended hiring a professional for presenting products to galleries.

COMMISSIONER PORTNOY acknowledged MR. PARK was a master photographer who went into the printing industry and requested he speak about the process of digitizing. MR. PARK advised he was a large format film photographer for many years, and he listed the locations of several of his galleries, including Zion National Park, Park City, St. George, and Manhattan. He had opened a 5,000 square-foot gallery with two other famous artists in the Palazzo. He said previously when people wanted to reproduce, copy, or archive a piece of art, they would visit a large format photographer who would shoot it with plates of film with various lighting techniques for accurate color. He opined photographing art may seem conceptually simple, however there were several factors such as special lighting techniques that could make or break the accuracy of the colors. When art is photographed, the lights could cause a glare. MR. PARK referenced using a cross polarizing technique where a polarizer is used and oriented identically on both light sources, describing polarizers as lines of microscopic plates that allow wavelengths of light to go between the plates in one direction. When light scatters and reflections or glare occur, the light could go off in several directions. Additionally, there would be a matching polarizer on the camera to tune and adjust the glare. He said a camera can take 16 images at one time, combine them as it micro shifts the sensor, and provide 187 megapixels per click.

COMMISSIONER PORTNOY asked about the cost of scanning, noting it was inexpensive to get a high-resolution scan and decide the size and printing surface. MR. PARK believed that would open possibilities to new digital realms, such as NFTs (non-fungible tokens). He opined there was a huge craze of NFTs they were digitizing. Additionally, with scanning they could correct or fix errors and sharpen areas. The same colors could

be achieved across several medias; however, there would be different aesthetic effects depending on the paper. Generally the original painting's media is what would look best for reproduction.

COMMISSIONER PORTNOY questioned if the cost was per square inch and if this would be more cost effective than painting. MR. PARK responded the cost could range from \$65 to \$250, which was an enormous difference in cost to do a high-resolution capturing. He said the price could vary depending on the sizing of the original, since they have to digitize each section and then combine them to yield a high-resolution photo.

8. Report by Cultural Affairs staff regarding the educational programming calendar - All Wards

Minutes:

MARY SABO, Senior Visual Arts Specialist, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide the upcoming education programming calendar with descriptions of the workshops, which included Artist Talks with BAILEY ANDERSON and KAT RYALS, an Artist Panel with artists commissioned for the Civic Center Building and Plaza, and an Artist Talk and Workshop with LOISSE LEDRES. MS. SABO advised that dates and details were not solidified. She clarified that updates for the education workshops would be included in future staff reports or a separate agenda item if the Commissioners wanted more discussion.

COMMISSIONER KLEVEN applauded staff for stewarding the program, stating there were different types of artists applying for open calls. She said several people attended the contracting workshop, and she believed they were filling a need for the community.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS confirmed with MS. SABO that the Commissioners would receive updates.

9. Discussion for possible action regarding the acceptance of a donation of artworks by Denise Duarte into the City's permanent artwork collection (No Fiscal Impact) - All Wards

Minutes:

MARY SABO, Senior Visual Arts Specialist, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to explain that DENISE DUARTE, who is a graphic designer and activist, would be leaving Las Vegas and wanted to donate some art pieces. There are already several pieces in the City's public art collection, including Rhythm and Hues at the Charleston Heights Art Center and Flourish pieces in the Cultural Corridor. MS. SABO displayed the O/S 18b and Terra Las Vegas (Fragment) pieces that would be donated, listing their dimensions, value, and materials from the presentation.

In response to COMMISSIONER KLEVEN, LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Section Manager, advised that the ceramic pieces could be damaged if moved often, and she wanted to ensure there was a permanent location for these pieces if the donation was approved by the Commission. She clarified they would have no location for these pieces until the Civic Center building was opened. MS. SABO confirmed that staff was worried about storage and recognized the artist's importance to the community. The Commissioner wondered how long the pieces would be stored. MS. MACHADO offered to coordinate with MS. DUARTE, noting she would be leaving the country soon.

COMMISSIONER CHI recalled a display cabinet outside former Mayor CAROLYN GOODMAN'S office, and she questioned if the Councilmember representing the artist would consider accepting the pieces for their office. MS. MACHADO clarified that the Mayor's area was full, since they just had an exhibition call for the area, and she offered to discuss this with Councilmembers' staff.

COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS thought it was beautiful that the artist wanted to donate the pieces, noting that they needed to know where the pieces would be placed. For context, she advised there was no space at the Nuwu Art Gallery to accept donations.

COMMISSIONER DE SANTIS suggested tabling the item to the next meeting.

Motion made by Sapira Cheuk to Hold in Abeyance to May 15, 2025

Passed For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1

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

10. **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 BEALS wanted SALLIE DOEBLER, CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of the Mayor's Fund (Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE) to present at the next meeting, noting she is responsible for raising funds for public art installations.

COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS stated that ELAINE WYNN supported the arts and had passed away, and she wondered if the Commission could do something to honor her.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS appreciated the education from a previous presentation, and he wondered if the intent was to add art to City vehicles. He wanted to bring closure to the discussion. COMMISSIONER PORTNOY clarified that he brought the presenters to discuss their business. He advised that New York City has vehicles with artwork, and he believed the discussion should continue to consider traveling art exhibits on City vehicles.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS confirmed with LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Section Manager, that the Commission oversees the Percent for the Arts fund, which has stipulations tied to permanence. She said temporary banner programs come out of the General Fund, and she questioned where they would receive funding for temporary projects. In response to COMMISSIONER PORTNOY, MS. MACHADO opined that the Commission should focus on permanent projects. COMMISSIONER ROBERTS suggested Commissioners reach out to their Councilperson to discuss that type of funding. MARY SABO, Senior Visual Arts Specialist, noted that they already do vinyl banners and artwork reproductions, and she recommended tabling this discussion.

11. **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:

None.

12. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

This meeting was adjourned at 4:56 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