

**ARTS COMMISSION  
MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025, 5:00 PM  
SANTA FE COMMUNITY CONVENTION CENTER  
CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A meeting of the Arts Commission was called to order at 5:05 pm on Monday, July 14, 2025, by Chair Carl Duncan, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The meeting was held in-person and virtually.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Commissioner Carl Duncan, Chair  
Commissioner Winoka Yepa, Virtually, arrived later in the meeting  
Commissioner Marcia Mikulak, virtually  
Commissioner Robyne Robinson, virtually  
Commissioner Herman Gomez Chavez  
Commissioner Mayrah Udvardi, virtually  
Commissioner Erin DeRosa  
Commissioner Heidi Brandow, virtually  
Commissioner Karina Hean

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Chelsey Johnson, Director, Arts and Culture Department  
Shala Russell, Deputy Director, Arts and Culture Department  
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer, virtually

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION** A motion was made by Commissioner DeRosa, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, to approve the agenda as presented.

**VOTE** The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows:

Commissioner Mikulak, yes; Commissioner Robinson, yes; Commissioner Gomez Chavez, yes; Commissioner Udvardi, yes; Commissioner DeRosa, yes; Commissioner Brandow, yes; Commissioner Hean, yes; Chair Duncan, yes.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF JUNE 9, 2025 ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION** A motion was made by Commissioner DeRosa, seconded by Commissioner Gomez Chavez, to approve the minutes as presented.

**VOTE** The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows:

Commissioner Mikulak, yes; Commissioner Robinson, yes; Commissioner Gomez Chavez, yes; Commissioner Udvardi, yes; Commissioner DeRosa, yes; Commissioner Brandow, yes; Commissioner Hean, yes; Chair Duncan, yes.

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**6. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

**7. DISCUSSION ITEMS: DISCUSSION AGENDA**

Commissioner Yepa arrived at the meeting virtually.

**A. DISCUSSION REGARDING WORKING GROUP UPDATES**

Chair Duncan asked if there were any working group updates.

Commissioner DeRosa reported that the Grants and Funding working group will be meeting in July or August.

Commissioner Yepa reported that the Art in Public Places working group met and had a productive meeting.

Ms. Johnson reported on the Mayor's Awards working group saying thank you to everyone for vetting the nominations.

**B. DISCUSSION REGARDING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ARTS COMMISSION**

Ms. Johnson said the Governance Committee discussed ways to bring awareness invite the public to meetings.

Chair Duncan said yes, we discussed more awareness.

Commissioner Gomez Chavez asked what has been done in the past to get the public to come and what can be done.

Chair Duncan said we did try going to different sites for our meetings and still not have much attendance. We do post is publically. We also talked about outreach events.

Commissioner DeRosa said maybe think about different locations and bringing snacks.

Commissioner Mikulak said we talked about publicity about the Arts Commission. She would like to request again that there be more publicity about the Commission and the Department.

Commissioner DeRosa said that is a great idea. Maybe do a call to action on resources and funding for arts.

Ms. Russell said she would like to have an agenda or plan to have community engagement around a call to action or another idea.

Ms. Johnson said you are advisory to the Governing Body. It is appropriate to do policy work. We will introduce the new Commissioners in our newsletter.

Chair Duncan said the outreach working group can come up with a plan and priorities.

Commissioner Hean said maybe we should have something of informational value on our agenda.

### **C. DISCUSSION REGARDING PUBLIC MURAL PROJECT TO RAISE AWARENESS OF MURDERED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE**

Chair Duncan said we wanted to relook at the Commission reviewing a public mural or topic and do a call for the art.

Ms. Johnson said the mural location is one of the walls of Warehouse 21. There have been some concerns about this mural and the Commission doing something to elevate the message. The Arts Commission would be the jury to do the selection. The Departments role is to protect and preserve until there is new management. We would like to do this call promptly.

There was discussion around ideas and City involvement.

### **D. DISCUSSION REGARDING CURRENT FUNDING LANDSCAPE FOR**

## **THE ARTS**

Chair Duncan said so my institution, nonprofits and others are running into Federal funding changes. It is important for us to come together to address defunding arts and culture. He wants us to start thinking about that and define areas of opportunity to make up that difference.

Ms. Russell said she and Chelsey had a meeting with the County's newly formed Arts and Culture Committee. We should include the County in our conversations. We need to continue to ask for the funding.

### **8. ACTION ITEMS: DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

#### **A. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF ART IS THE SOLUTION EVALUATION PROCESS**

Commissioner Yepa reviewed the current process for approval of the Art is the Solution grants and presented the working group recommendation to make the following change:

The working group will interview the top 10 applicants, then determine the 5 finalists, who they will present for review and approval at the Arts Commission August meeting.

**MOTION** A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommended change to the process.

**VOTE** The motion passed on a voice vote.

### **9. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR**

None.

### **10. MATTERS FROM STAFF**

#### **A. GENERAL ARTS AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Ms. Johnson gave an update on activities, programs and events.

#### **B. UNESCO 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVES AND OUTREACH**

Ms. Russell gave an update on the events and outreach for the UNESCO 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

**11. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

**A. DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNITY UPDATES: RELEVANT AND  
TIMELY ARTS RELATED EVENTS AND ISSUES OF NOTE**

Members of the Commission shared event updates and issues.

**12. NEXT MEETING**

**Monday, July 14, 2025, 5:30 pm at the Community Gallery.**

**13. ADJOURN**

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

---

Carl Duncan, Chair

---

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer