



ARTS & CULTURE

San Antonio Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 9, 2024
9:00 a.m.

Plaza de Armas Building
Culture Commons
115 Plaza de Armas

Members Present

D1 Arthur Campsey
D2 Maria Williams
D3 Yadhira Lozano
D4 Susana Segura
D6 Janie Villarreal-McClinchie
D7 Dr. Ellen Riojas Clark
D8 Henry Brun
D9 Freda Facey
M. Rene Barilleaux
M. Jessica Sanchez
M. Eileen Kret

Members Absent

D5 Mari Sandoval
D10 Dr. Mark Rogers
M. Suhail Arastu
M. Linda Hardberger

Staff

Krystal Jones
Diana Hidalgo
Lisa Biediger
Kimberly Mirelez
Jordyn Patrias
Bianca Alvarez
Alyssa Franklin
Kirstin Cutts
Kim Le Blanc
Crisa Valadez
Victoria Garcia
Amanda Montalvo
Sonia Covarrubias

Call to Order / Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Barilleaux, Chair at 9:03 a.m. The roll call was taken by Sonia Covarrubias and a quorum was present.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the San Antonio Arts Commission meeting on April 9, 2024

Motion: Kret moved to approve. Facey seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Lozano, Segura, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

2. Arts Funding: FY25 Artist Grant Funding Recommendations (Action)

Valadez provided the Commission a brief description of the artist grant, timeline, details on award tiers, statistics on applications received, scoring and demographics.

Valadez presented the previously shared list of the 30 fiscal year 2025 artist grant funding recommendations for top scoring artists by tiers.

Public Comments: None

Commission Discussion: Brun requested the total number of applications received and grants awarded. Valadez stated 219 total applications received and 30 awards total, with 83% of the 30 recommended being new grantees.

Barilleaux requested an example of multidisciplinary category. Valadez stated the guidelines defines multidisciplinary as work that combines two or more of the disciplines listed, i.e. an artist having a video production projected in a gallery for which they had photographs or paintings; or a performance in a gallery incorporating 2D work.

Lozano inquired if the application form allows artists to indicate their stage name. Valadez stated the current application identifies artist legal name only. The artist's stage name will be identified on the grantee list once the list is released for public information. Jones added that the grantee list will include the grantee social tags as well.

Motion: Brun moved to approve FY25 artist grant funding recommendations, as presented. Lozano seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Lozano, Segura, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

3. Arts Funding: FY25 Operational Grant Funding Recommendations (Action)

Garcia provided the Commission with a brief description of operational grant funding, timeline, and statistics on applications received.

Garcia presented the previously shared list of fiscal year 2025 operational grant funding recommendations and identified a recusal from Lozano to vote for Luminaria.

Public Comments: None

Commission Discussion: None

Motion: Brun moved to approve FY25 operational grant funding recommendations except Luminaria, as presented. Kret seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Segura, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

Motion: Williams moved to approve FY25 operational grant funding recommendations for Luminaria, as presented. Campsey seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Lozano, Segura, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

Recusal: Lozano

4. Arts Funding: FY25 Culturally Specific Grant Funding Recommendations (Action)

Garcia provided the Commission with a brief description of culturally specific grant funding, timeline, and statistics on applications received.

Garcia presented the previously shared list of fiscal year 2025 culturally specific grant funding recommendations and identified a recusal from Segura to vote for the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center.

Public Comments: None

Commission Discussion: Clark requesting clarification on the terminology “FY22-24 City Council allocated arts funding” listed for Mexican American Civil Rights Institute. Jones states terminology references a one-time funding previously funded by City Council allocated funding through the budget process for the organization until they were eligible for our departmental funding based on guidelines.

Brun pointed out variations in culturally specific funding award. Hidalgo stated that grants are available for up to 20 percent of the organization’s three-year average net operating expenses, not to exceed \$150,000. Culturally specific grantees will not be increased more than 50 percent of their prior year funding. Jones added the department reviewed the organization’s new 990 information.

Motion: Kret moved to approve FY25 culturally specific grant funding recommendations for all organizations except Esperanza Peace and Justice Center, as presented. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Lozano, Segura, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

Motion: Lozano moved to approve FY25 culturally specific grant funding recommendations for the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center, as presented. Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Lozano, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

Recusal: Segura

5. Arts Funding: FY25 Events Grant Funding Recommendations (Action)

Montalvo provided the Commission with a brief description of events grant funding, timeline, and statistics on applications received.

Montalvo presented the previously shared list of the fiscal year 2025 events grant funding recommendations.

Public Comments: None

Commission Discussion: Lozano made note that only two applicants received the maximum funding amount and inquired if any other applicants applied for the maximum funding amount. Hidalgo stated maximum funding is based on applicant budget. Applicants are required to submit their budget to figure the maximum award, twenty percent of their budget. The recommendations being presented today reflect the maximum amount of twenty percent.

Facey inquired the names of the two applicants not being recommended for funding. Montalvo stated names as follows: *Christmas Laredo for All* and *San Antonio Stockyards Historical Society*.

Motion: Campsey moved to approve the FY25 events grant funding recommendations, as presented. Brun seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Lozano, Segura, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

6. Public Art: Markson Park – Artist Selection (Action)

Franklin presented Donovan Martinez for the public art opportunity at Markson Park. Franklin detailed description of site and displayed examples of artist work and experience. The Public Art Committee approved the artist selection. A timeline for this project was provided.

Public Comments: None

Commission Discussion: None

Motion: Brun moved to approve Donovan Martinez for Markson Park artist selection, as presented. Lozano seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Lozano, Segura, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

7. Public Art: Police Station @ St. Mary's – Final Design (Action)

Alvarez presented renderings of Police Station @ St. Mary's artwork final design by Elizabeth Carrington. Artwork includes four six-foot by 20-foot cut screen metal panels proposed to be installed at four outdoor locations: two at street level along St. Mary's and two at the base of the stairs at the Police Station public entrance. Alvarez indicated design includes direct reference to inspiration found on St. Mary's Street featuring family, community, retro signage, foliage, and architecture. Alvarez noted the Public Art Committee approved the final design and indicated a timeline for this project.

9:40 a.m. Williams stepped out of the room.

Public Comments: None

Commission Discussion: Facey was grateful artist considered the Public Art Committee feedback and made improvement to the artwork from the initial concept design.

9:50 a.m. Williams returned to the room.

Clark inquired if the 6 x 20 ft cut outs were metal and indicated the artwork would require enhanced signage. Alvarez confirmed artwork is made from metal and indicated colors proposed will be painted, and enhanced signage would be installed, plus a project webpage.

Barilleaux expressed the artwork is meant to be seen in detail and not as one narrative. Alvarez indicated the artist intent for this project is for pedestrians to revisit and discover something new.

Campsey inquired if the site is lighted. Alvarez indicated 20-foot tapered lighting illuminates' space and ambient light from the facility as well. Lighting is not intended for the artwork and added the site includes conduit in the foundation if lighting should be needed in the future.

Motion: Campsey moved to approve Police Station at St. Mary's final design, as presented. Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Segura, Lozano, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

8. Public Art: Community Art on City Property Makin' Hay at Hardberger Park (Action)

Cutts presented to the Commission an opportunity for installation of community artwork, Makin' Hay, by Tom Otterness, at Phil Hardberger Park, City property, on loan by Phil Hardberger Park Conservancy (PHPC). PHPC will maintain ownership and follow City guidelines on insurance requirements. PHPC will install and manage maintenance and on sculptures. Terms for display would be for a five-year installation with an opportunity to renew. Timeline was provided.

Public Comments: None

Commission Discussion: Clark inquired if artwork is donated. Cutts confirmed the artwork is donated to the PHPC.

Barilleaux requested a confirmation the City is providing the land for the installation and no financial support is required from the City. Cutts confirmed.

Motion: Sanchez moved to approve Community art on City property: Makin' Hay at Hardberger Park, as presented. Segura seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Segura, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

9. Public Art: Artwork Deaccession: Katie Pell, Untitled (Butterfly) (Action)

Cutts presented deaccession process to remove from artwork from City collection emphasizing maintenance projects never begin with the intent to deaccession. Instead, the City's triple maintenance process of artwork including deaccession review may reveal more appropriate course of action including consulting with contractors and other external experts to inspect the artworks for conservation and repairs.

Cutts provided background information on artwork Untitled (Butterfly) and photos of artwork installed in 2013 and the current condition of sculpture and the concerns. After investigation and consultation best course of action concluded to the deaccession of sculpture as maintenance would transform the artwork resulting no longer to the original vision of Pell. The Public Art Committee approved. Timeline was provided.

Public Comments: None

Commission Discussion: Barilleaux appreciated staff investigation.

Facey stated the Public Art Committee discussed thoroughly with great sensitivity involved in making the recommendation.

Lozano inquired of process to prevent future deaccession of artwork currently in City's inventory. Mirelez stated new public art projects have a series of reviews with team and artist to ensure artwork will endure for a minimum of twenty years without major maintenance. City Council has been supportive of increased art maintenance funding allowing focus on 30 projects this year to prevent deaccession.

Barilleaux sought confirmation deaccession implies destruction of the art. Cutts confirmed this is the case for Untitled (Butterfly), as destruction of the artwork is the preferred choice of the artist's representative and estate manager.

Motion: Brun moved to approve deaccession approval of artwork deaccession: Katie Pell, Untitled (Butterfly), as presented. Facey seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Segura, Lozano, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

10. Performing Arts, Film and Music: FY25 Film Festival Funding Recommendations (Action)

LeBlanc provided the Commission with a brief description of Film Festival Funding Program, including timeline, and statistics on applications received.

LeBlanc presented the previously shared list of fiscal year 2025 – fiscal year 27 Film Festival Funding Program recommendations. The Performing Arts, Film and Music Committee approved.

Public Comments: None

Commission Discussion: Lozano inquired why item was not presented by Grants Division. Jones indicated Film Festival funding program is managed by a different division and funded separately.

Motion: Kret moved to approve the FY25-FY27 Film Festival Funding Program recommendation, as presented. Brun seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Segura, Lozano, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

Public Comments

High Voltage Inc – Bella Solla thanked the Commission for grant funding.

Announcements and Reports

Public Art Committee: Community Engagement

Patrias informed the Commission of three public art community engagement surveys open in City Council Districts 5 and 9. Patrias invited the Commission a link to all surveys would be sent via email and requested all to share the surveys with their networks and in their Districts.

Lozano advocated for SA Speak Up survey form to include a drop-down category allowing community to respond that **Art** is a priority in their district.

Performing Arts, Film and Music Committee: Film San Antonio Coffee Talk at CineFestival

LeBlanc invited the Commission to attend the San Antonio Film Commission’s Coffee Talk on Friday, July 12 from 11 a.m. – 1 pm. hosted at the Carver Community Cultural Center Jo Long Theatre Lobby.

Director’s Report

Culture Commons Gallery – Resilient and Responsive: Artists and the Environment Artist Talk & Workshop

Jones invited the Commission to attend Resilient and Responsive: Artists and the Environment Artist Talk & Workshop Thursday, July 11 at 6 p.m. at Culture Commons Gallery.

Department Updates

Jones announced Department is fully staffed now including Laura Parker, Public Art Project Manager.

Upcoming Events

Brun announced the launching of the first annual Latin Jazz and Arts Festival taking place Saturday, October 5 from 12 p.m. – 11 p.m. at UTSA Downtown Campus.

Adjournment

Motion: Sanchez motioned to adjourn the Arts Commission meeting and Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Campsey, Williams, Segura, Lozano, Villarreal-McClinchie, Clark, Brun, Facey, Barilleaux, Sanchez, Kret

Absent: Sandoval, Rogers, Arastu, Hardberger

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Rene Barilleaux, Chair Date

Sonia Covarrubias, Liaison Date