



## ARTS & CULTURE

### San Antonio Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 14, 2023  
9:00 a.m.

Plaza de Armas Building  
Culture Commons  
115 Plaza de Armas

#### **Members Present**

D1 Andi Rodriguez  
D2 Maria Williams  
D6 Emily Fleisher  
D8 Henry Brun  
D9 Freda Facey  
D10 Dr. Mark Rogers  
M. Suhail Arastu  
M. Eileen Kret

#### **Members Absent**

D3 Yadhira Lozano  
D4 Susana Segura  
D5 Andy Benavides  
D7 Dr. Ellen Riojas Clark  
M. Rene Barilleaux  
M. Jessica Sanchez  
M. Linda Hardberger

#### **Staff**

Krystal Jones  
Diana Hidalgo  
Lisa Biediger  
Kimberly Mirelez  
Stephanie Torres  
Sonia Covarrubias

#### **Call to Order / Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Suhail Arastu, Chair Pro Tem at 9:09 a.m. The roll call was taken by Sonia Covarrubias and a quorum was present.

#### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

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

Aye: Arastu, Kret, Rodriguez, Williams, Brun, Fleisher, Facey, Rogers

Absent: Barilleaux, Sanchez, Hardberger, Lozano, Segura, Benavides, Clark

#### **Public Art: San Francesco di Paola Sculpture Donation (Action)**

Kimberly Mirelez presented to the Commission a sculpture donation by Sam J Greco and family. Donation includes fabrication, installation, and maintenance of *San Francesco di Paola* bronze sculpture by artist, Antonio Caruso to be installed at Piazza Italia Park honoring the Italian community.

*Public Comments:* None

#### **Commission Discussion:**

*Motion:* Brun moved to approve San Francesco di Paola Sculpture donation, as presented. Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Arastu, Kret, Rodriguez, Williams, Brun, Fleisher, Facey, Rogers

Absent: Barilleaux, Sanchez, Hardberger, Lozano, Segura, Benavides, Clark

**Public Art: Public Art Strategy (Action)**

Krystal Jones provided an overview of the strategy including the City interpretation of what *public art* is defined as, projects that have been accomplished in the past 5 years, and maintenance and repair. Due to an increase for art from 1% to 1.5% for the 2022 – 2027 Bond Program an update of the public art strategy is required. The update will incorporate outdated language, ensure support of community driven art on City property, provide a connection for the community on projects from start to finish, the development of an “Art in Visible Spaces” toolkit, the fostering artist development, exploring opportunities for functionality, prioritizing maintenance, and educating and informing the community on the public art program. Jones provided a timeline for the amendment of the public art strategy.

*Public Comments:* None

*Commission Discussion:* None

*Motion:* Dr. Rogers moved to approve the Public Art Strategy, as presented. Facey seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Arastu, Kret, Rodriguez, Williams, Brun, Fleisher, Facey, Rogers

Absent: Barilleaux, Sanchez, Hardberger, Lozano, Segura, Benavides, Clark

**Public Art: Seeling Channel Public Art Design Update (Briefing)**

Kimberly Mirelez presented the update on the fabrication for the Seeling Channel project, artwork by Kim Bishop and Luis Balderas in District 7. Timeline was provided.

*Public Comments:* None

*Commission Discussion:* None

**Public Comments**

None

**Announcements and Reports**

Centro de Artes Committee – Centro de Artes Open Call for Exhibits – Torres stated the open call for exhibits closed and provided timeline for selecting the 2025-2027 schedule.

Director’s Report: San Antonio Arts Commission Term Ending – Jones announced Commission member terms end May 23 and encouraged all those interested to reapplying.

Upcoming Event Announcements:

San Antonio Poet Laureate investiture ceremony 6 pm Monday, April 10, at City Council Chambers

San Antonio Public Library is hosting an official grand reopening celebration 10 am Saturday, April 1 including “*Mi Vida*” by San Antonio Artist Jesse Treviño. Cultural Events Division will host a panel discussion about the life and career of Jesse Treviño.

Southside Lions Park “Bloom” sculpture dedication and community event 5 pm Monday, March 20

Musical Bridges Around the World “*From Italy with Love*” 7 pm Sunday, March 26 at San Fernando Cathedral. Free tickets.

Renee Talamantez, Public Art Project Manager introduced as new Department team member.

**Adjournment**

*Motion:* Brun motioned to adjourn the Arts Commission meeting and Facey seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Arastu, Kret, Rodriguez, Williams, Brun, Fleisher, Facey, Rogers

Absent: Barilleaux, Sanchez, Hardberger, Lozano, Segura, Benavides, Clark

Meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.