

PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
3200 E. TAHQUITZ CANYON WAY – COUNCIL CHAMBERS



A. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Palm Springs Public Arts Commission was called to order by Chair Gary Armstrong on Thursday, September 4, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair Gary Armstrong, Commissioners Carlos Silveira, Lauri Kibby, Jim Lande; Lilly Hanner, Jenan Cameranesi, Natasia Gascon, Michelle Loya, and Tina Gonsalves

ABSENT:

CITY STAFF: Director, Jay Virata

C. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LANDE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CAMERANESI, AND CARRIED 9-0 TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA WITH THE MODIFICATION OF MOVING PRESENTATION H1 TO ITEM E.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

None.

E. PRESENTATION

Wayne Olsen presented on the economic impact of arts and culture in the Coachella Valley. He highlighted that arts and culture generate \$110 million in economic activity, support 1,623 jobs, and contribute to a sense of community pride. He emphasized the need for the Commission's leadership in developing a unique value proposition for Palm Springs' arts and culture ecosystem.

F. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR.

Chair Armstrong shared his thoughts on the Commission's mission, drawing inspiration from a recent trip to Barcelona. He emphasized the importance of preserving the past,

challenging the present, and curating the future. He also shared advice from a former City Clerk about making decisions based only on information presented in the meeting and being patient with the process.

G. ELECTION OF THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR FOR 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR.

TINA GONSALVES WAS NOMINATED AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AS VICE CHAIR.

H. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KIBBY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOYA, CARRIED 9-0 TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 3, 2025.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL:

1. **Renaming the Public Arts Collection.** The Commission finalized members for two ad hoc committees.
 - o Ad hoc committee 1 – look at existing collection and determine which pieces should be moved over to the cultural – will include Commissioners Lande and Hanner.
 - o Ad hoc committee 2 – write up the consideration and approval process of new pieces to be considered – will include Vice Chair Gonsalves, Commissioners Silveira, Cameranesi, and Gascon.
2. **Arts Ordinance Next Steps.** The Commission discussed the financial components of the arts ordinances and the need for a maintenance fund for public art. Commissioners Lande, Kibby, Gascon, and Chair Armstrong will serve on the ad hoc committee to review the Public Art Ordinances.
3. **Rescheduling October 2, 2025, Regular meeting.** The Commission voted to move the October 2, 2025, meeting to October 9, 2025, due to a conflict with Yom Kippur.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER GASCON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LANDE, CARRIED 9-0 TO RESCHEDULE THE OCTOBER 2, 2025, REGULAR MEETING TO OCTOBER 9, 2025.

J. PROJECT UPDATES

1. **Wyatt Mural Update**

- Director Virata provided an update on the Richard Wyatt Mural. The City has legal clearance to move forward with the project. A grant is being pursued to help fund the project.

2. Beautiful Shade

- No update.

3. Artscape in the Parks

- Contracts for "Parkside Gossip" and "Dragonfly Shade Bench" have been executed. The city is working on securing a contractor for the bases and requesting Measure J funds to help pay for some of the park installations.

4. Art Maintenance/Inventory

- No update.

5. The Art of Taming Horses

- Chair Armstrong and Commissioner Cameranesi will work on this project. There is an ongoing issue with determining responsibility for the walkway bridge over the wash, a potential site for a mural.

6. Pride Monument

- Ground has been broken in Francis Stevens Park, and installation is expected soon. A dedication ceremony is planned for the last week of October.

7. Airport Art Curator Selection

- The Airport Commission and staff have hired Group Creative Services to manage artwork at the airport. A selection committee, including two art commissioners, will be formed.

K. COMMISSIONER AGENDA REQUESTS AND COMMENTS:

- A request was made to have the Cultural/Monument Ordinance Subcommittee report back on their findings at the next meeting.

L. REPORT FROM DIRECTOR/STAFF:

Director Virata had no additional items to report.

ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CAMERANESI, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANNER, AND CARRIED 9-0 TO ADJOURN AT 7:12 PM TO A MEETING ON OCTOBER 9, 2025, AT 5:30 PM IN THE LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM OF CITY HALL LOCATED AT 3200 E. TAHQUITZ CANYON WAY.

Respectfully submitted,



Jay Virata, Director
Housing & Community Development Department