

CITY OF SURPRISE
Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission
16089 N. Bullard Avenue
Surprise, Arizona 85374
Monday, November 4, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
Surprise Regional Library
Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

Chair Pullins, Vice-Chair Kupper, Commission members Hassan Rasul, Katherine Dunphy, Margaret Lieu, Steve Wallgren and Susan deJong.

Absent: None

Staff: Julie Akerly – Arts & Culture Manager, Alexandra Giambalvo – Arts & Culture Assistant and Heather Donaldson – Arts, Culture & Library Management Analyst, Sr.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Staff Reports

Ms. Akerly, Arts & Culture Manager, reported on the following items:

- Introduce new arts and culture assistant, Alexandra Giambalvo
- The HeART and Culture of Surprise award will be presented during the City Manager updates at the November 19 regular council meeting
- Starting in December, organizations who received grant funding have been invited to give presentations to the commission
- Vista consultants had a site visit at the end of October and conducted over 20 interviews, met with City, Foundation, and District leadership, and connected with thousands of attendees at GAIN Night. They will be putting together findings of their research to present to the client cohort and community cohort in December/January.

E. Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission Agenda

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Consideration and action pertaining to the October 7, 2024 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Wallgren moved to approve the October 7, 2024 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Rasul 2nd. 7 Yes votes. Motion carried.

2. Presentation pertaining to the Oasis Court Mural.

Ms. Akerly presented the Commission with a panel update and artist presentation regarding the Oasis Court Mural. Commissioner Kupper advised the Commission of the panel process and guidelines for this art project. The following topics were addressed:

- Community Pool Project Background
- Artist Mentorship & Project Consultant
 - Finalist onboarding
 - Selected artist support
 - City staff project consultation
- Process
 - Round 1: Qualifications
 - Round 2: Proposals
- Proposal Guidelines
 - Examples of clear, bold court lines
 - Not allowed: complex shading
 - Must align with Oasis Pool design & themes

The artist, Mr. Curiel addressed the Commission regarding the final design for the Oasis Court Mural.

The Commission requested that the artist include the entire free throw circles in the mural.

The Commission appreciated the design and felt it was appropriate for the project and location.

3. Discussion of strategies to advance the SACAC's mission.

Ms. Akerly lead a discussion with the Commission to discuss and brainstorm strategies to actively fulfill their mission, powers, duties, and responsibilities.

The Commission discussed ways that the Surprise Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission can encourage arts and cultural growth through education and advocacy. The Commission suggested the following ideas:

- Commissioners to provide presentations at schools to advise of what we have going on
- Commissioners to provide presentations for senior communities
- A commissioner picked every month to get out with the public (boots on ground) advocating for more arts and culture in community - TOP PRIORITY
- Take advantage of any opportunities to pair up and advocate for the things the Dysart Unified School District is already doing such as the Festival of the Arts, etc.

- Activate the original townsite as there a lot of kids and artists there who don't feel like what we do is accessible to them at this time
- Partner with the Surprise Youth Council who could go out and help the Commission get the word out about events and opportunities
- Look into sponsoring some students in something similar to the Gallery 37 project where students can intern for well-known artists and get paid while they learn the business of art and how to sell themselves, etc.
- Create a social media platform and newsletter

4. Discussion pertaining to a review of the art collection survey and discussion of restoration priorities.

Ms. Akerly lead a discussion with the Commission and provided an overview of artworks in the City's collection that have high restoration costs compared to replacement values, high maintenance priorities, low curatorial priorities, and/or high annual maintenance costs. The following topics were discussed:

- RLA Conservation
- Restoration summary
- Maintenance summary
- Works for discussion
- Objective

The Commission discussed the priorities of the above referenced projects and provided input on next steps towards maintenance, restoration, and/or deaccessioning.

The Commission agreed to restore the following works:

- The Learning Tree

The Commission agreed to only maintain the following works:

- Brian's Story
- Swimming with Porpoises & Splash

The Commission agreed the following works should be considered for deaccession:

- Life in Arizona

The Commission agree the following works should be considered for deaccession and replaced with a similar community-based project:

- Be Yourself, Find Your Crowd
- We Are the Past, Present, and Future of Surprise

The Commission would like to vote on the next steps for the following works at their next meeting to determine the next steps of restore, maintain, or deaccession:

- Leaf Benches
- The 5 C's of Arizona
- Totem
- Regina Well Memorial Bench

F. Other Business and Future Agenda Items Steps

- Frog painting activity

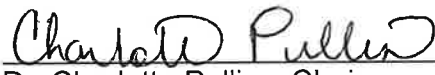
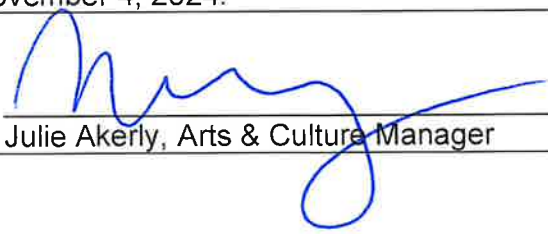
- Next meeting will take place on 2nd Monday of December (December 9, 2024)

G. Current Events and Reports

- Commissioner Kupper attended the Daughters of the American Revolution meeting last Saturday where Mayor Hall and Councilmember Cline were present and spoke to the group
- Commissioner deJong attended the following events:
 - The Ground Floor Artists studio Picasso show
 - The Arts HQ Members, Quilt and Native American shows
 - Gain Nights
 - Lunchtime theater
 - City Hall gallery show

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. – Commissioner Lieu. Commissioner deJong 2nd. 7 Yes votes. Motion Carried.

	 Dr. Charlotte Pullins, Chair
ATTEST:	 Heather Donaldson, Management Analyst – Sr.
CERTIFICATION: I, Julie Akerly, Arts & Culture Manager for the City of Surprise Arts, Culture & Library Department, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission meeting held on November 4, 2024.	
	 Julie Akerly, Arts & Culture Manager