

CITY OF SURPRISE
Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission
16089 N. Bullard Avenue
Surprise, Arizona 85374
Wednesday, January 7, 2026 @ 6:30 PM
Surprise Regional Library Programming Room
Meeting Minutes - FINAL

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

Chair Crystal Kupper, Vice-Chair Dr. Charlotte Pullins, Hassan Rasul, Katherine Dunphy, Susan deJong, Margaret Lieu, and Steve Wallgren.

Absent: none

Staff: Julie Akerly – Arts & Culture Manager, Danica Marlin – Art in Public Places Coordinator, Alexandra Giambalvo – Arts & Culture Assistant

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Staff Reports

Ms. Akerly, Arts & Culture Manager, and Ms. Marlin, Art in Public Places Coordinator, reported on the following items:

- Roots of Creation: Art and Nature Festival is set for January 24th 12-4pm.
- Play Your Way to the Park is upcoming February 7th, 6-8pm.
- Cactus Rd. Traffic Cabinet reception set for February 5th, 6-7:30pm.
- Maintenance and restoration work is beginning Monday, January 12th.
- The new Patron Services Coordinator, Production Coordinator as well as Department Marketing Manager have begun.
- New “Get Involved” opportunities for volunteers.

E. Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission Agenda

- Minutes
- SACAC Commissioner Appointment Criteria
- Surprise Regional Library Artwork

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Consideration and action pertaining to the December 3rd, 2025 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission meeting minutes.
 - Commissioner Wallgren moved to approve the December 3rd, 2025 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner DeJong 2nd. 7 Yes votes. 0 Abstained. 0 No votes. Motion carried.

2. Discussion and review pertaining to SACAC commissioner appointment criteria.
 - Commissioners reviewed criteria and selected questions to recommend for inclusion in the application and interview process.
 - Commissioner Chair Crystal Kupper, Vice-Chair Dr. Charlotte Pullins will present criteria to City Council for consideration.

3. Discussion pertaining to future new artwork at Surprise Regional Library.
 - Pre-qualified muralist and Library Panel–selected artist Adrian Ramirez. Adrian presented his design proposal to the Commission:
 - Adrian is a Phoenix, Arizona–based visual artist and designer who Works across murals, sculptures, and illustrations, draws inspiration from music and cultural heritage and invites viewers to contemplate perception and emotion as core elements of his practice influences, body of work, concept for the work.
 - Work will consist of 2 8’ x 24’ ft vinyl wrapped wall sections in the Surprise Regional Library.
 - The figures portrayed will represent the process between writing and reading on respective walls with rich and vibrant environments that relate and “speak” to one another.
 - The artist’s focus is on clean lines and graphic style creating a “visual playground” for viewers from a distance.
 - The Artist will conduct a community engagement workshop where he will present and lead a collaborative painting, each person contributing to a larger puzzled work. This will influence his work.

The Commissioners provided feedback:

 - Bright color palettes including baby blue and electric green presented by the artist are harmonious with the existing environment and will bring light and brightness to the space.
 - The Commission expressed concerns with the proposed location of the artwork, an encouraged further exploration.
 - Mockups should be provided at the next phase of the work.

F. Other Business and Future Agenda Items

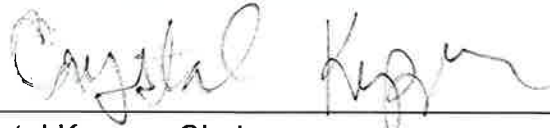


- Next meeting will take place on February 4th, 2026.

G. Current Events and Reports

- December Commissioner outing: MLK Day of Service

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. – Commissioner Dr. Pullens motioned. Commissioner Lieu 2nd. 7 Yes votes. 0 abstained. 0 No votes. Motion Carried.

	 Crystal Kupper, Chair
ATTEST:	 Danica Marlin, Art in Public Places Coordinator
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 December 3, 2025.	
	 Julie Akerly, Arts & Culture Manager