

Arts Commission - Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 26, 2026

Central Library events Room A/Teams

Meeting called to order at 4:33 PM by Audrey Overstreet

Public Comment: Citizens are invited to address the Arts Commission on any topic not on the agenda. 3 Minutes each.

- Jimmy Matlosz - advocating for growing and connecting the film industry in Spokane

Attendance:

- Commission Members Present: Audrey Overstreet, Suzanne Ostersmith, Julie Shepard, Kelly Baker, Don Hamilton, Eva Silverstone, Aimee Brooks, Robert Thompson, Luis Mota, Jackie Caro
- Commission Members Not Present: none
- Non-Voting Members Present: Skyler Oberst, CM Dixit, Jimmy Matlosz
- *Quorum Present:* Yes
- Staff Members Present: Lisa Edwards

Minutes: Minutes from 4/28/2026 approved unanimously.

Current Agenda: The current agenda was approved.

Briefing Session:

- **Secretary/City Liaison Report - Lisa Edwards**
 - Reminder on Roberts Rules of Order
 - Update on City emails, name plates and name tags
- **Chair Report - Audrey Overstreet**
 - Announced that Skyler will be reporting informally every month and providing more detailed reports every quarter
 - Read the mission statement
 - Spoke about more opportunities for the arts
 - Arts Awards will be September 19th at the Central Library
 - Commission will have a larger role in helping plan the awards show this year. A committee will be formed, and Eva will be the primary contact.
- **Vice Chair Report - Suzanne Ostersmith**
 - Suzanne will be hosting a going away party for Audrey on June 23rd at 7:00pm. All commissioners are invited to attend.
 - An updated draft of the Commissioner Handbook was sent out to all commissioners for review. Please let Suzanne know of any changes in the next week.
- **Governance Committee Report - Suzanne Ostersmith**
 - Suzanne thanked the committee for their work
 - Four new Commissioners should be ready to start in June. They have been approved by the Mayor and will be going before City Council in the next couple of weeks.
 - We still need to be recruiting from District 1
- **Municipal Arts Plan Committee Report - Audrey Overstreet**
 - The committee will be meeting next week
 - Nothing else new to report
- **Public Art Committee Report -Luis Mota**
 - The City is longer interested in changing the location of the crosswalk project near Rogers High school

- Shelby is looking for ideas of how to increase safety for artists who are painting murals. Skyler brought this to Lisa who has been in touch with the Downtown Precinct Captain with the idea to increase patrols when artists are working.
- Shelby is also looking for any creative ideas on how to save money on blocking the streets for asphalt art projects
- The City of Cheney has reached out to Spokane Arts for help doing more in the creative sector. A grant went to EWU to teach mural painting classes.
- The question of whether or not the cost for asphalt art projects includes maintenance was raised.
- **Chase Gallery Committee Report - Julie Shepard**
 - The committee met two weeks ago with staff and Spokane Arts staff
 - Audrey has been working on a calendar for running the Chase
 - The art call is out for 2027. The selection committee will convene in September. Julie is looking for members of this committee.
 - The goal is to schedule six shows for 2027
 - The current show is being taken down on 5/28/ at 8:30 am
 - Julie needs more committee members. Please reach out to her if interested.
 - A press release for the June show should be coming out soon.
- **Spokane Arts Update - Skyler Oberst**
 - Skyler thanked the Commissioner for their work
 - A new Youth Poet Laureate has been selected, Hope Austin from University High School.
 - There is a new mural on the side of the Media Credit Union building
 - A large mural in the alley between Lincoln and Post behind PF Chang's is about to begin work
 - Skyler shared a poem titled 'Good Bones' by Maggie Smith
 - There was a request from commissioners to be included on all press releases from Spokane Arts

Informational, Discussion and/or Action Items:

- Vote on making a formal recommendation to the City on adopting the updates to the 1% for the Arts Ordinance and the Public Art Selection Process Policy
 - Presentation provided by: Lisa Edwards
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.
 - Audrey Overstreet moved to make the recommendation
 - Eva Silverstone seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed 10-0
- Talking Points for Commissioners Discussion
 - Presentation provided by: Suzanne Ostersmith
 - Questions asked and answered
 - Discussion ensued

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Arts Commission Meeting is on Tuesday, June 23, 2026.