

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024 – 5:00 P.M.
WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL, FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM,
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Moreno-Freedman at 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Gantman was sworn in at the start of the meeting by Mayor Erickson.

A. Land Acknowledgement: Chair Moreno-Freedman read the Land Acknowledgement.

B. Pledge of Allegiance: Chair Moreno-Freedman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call:

Present: Commissioner Cameron Faber
Commissioner Dan Faltz
Commissioner Martin Gantman
Commissioner Catherine Lee
Commission Vice Chair Sigourney Gunther
Commission Chair Dawn Moreno-Freedman

Absent: Commissioner Mito Aviles

Also Present: Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann
Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Dennice Oceguela
Public Art Administrator Marcus Mitchell
Arts Coordinator Michael Che
Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff
Arts Specialist Joy Tribble
Public Art Contractor Jessica Rich

D. Approval of the Agenda:

ACTION: Approval of the September 26, 2024 meeting agenda was **motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Faltz, and approved unanimously.**

E. Approval of the August 22, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

ACTION: Approval of the August 22, 2024 was **motioned by Vice Chair Gunther, seconded by Commissioner Faltz and approved unanimously noting an abstain vote from Commissioner Faber.**

F. **Public Comment** None.

II. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following routine matter was acted upon by one motion. Approval of the Consent Calendar was **motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Faber and approved unanimously.**

A. **Posting of the Agenda**

The agenda was posted per proper noticing procedures at City Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood Library and West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

ACTION: Received and filed. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

III. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report**

The Commission received a report from Commissioner Faltz on the Art on the Outside Subcommittee for its meeting held September 26, 2024 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Received and filed the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the proposed art locations and strategies in the draft Art Plan for the West Hollywood Aquatic and Recreation Center (ARC) at West Hollywood Park. **Motioned by Commissioner Faltz, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved unanimously.**
- 3) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the applications of Tristan Eaton, FriendsWithYOU, Joshua Lawyer, Shantell Martin, Allison Bamcat and Allison Kunath and deny applications submitted by Matthew Aceves, Erin Adams, Kenyan Armitage, Vanessa Beecroft, Alex Cerutti, Ashley Church, Tony DeVoney, Sitki Dogan, Martin Durazo, Joeeun Julisha Kim, Maria-Jose Lindo-Lawyer, Acza Marroquin, Ruby Michelle Riego, Tait Roelofs, Dave Titus, Ricardo Tomasz, Jose Maya Trejo, Erin Yoshi, and 3B Collective for the WeHo Muralist Roster. **Motioned by Commissioner Faltz, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved unanimously.**
- 4) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the artwork *Cheshmeh*, 2024, by Alexandre Ali Reza Dorriz for exhibition on the billboard at 8743 Sunset Boulevard (Invisible Frame) from March 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025.
- 5) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the artwork *Una Pagina Mas*, 2024 by Noé Olivas on the billboard at 8775 Sunset Boulevard (Sunset Spectacular) from March 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025.

- 6) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the artwork *Black Woman Rest* by Patrisse Cullors for exhibition on the billboard at 9157 Sunset Blvd (Streamlined Arbor) from March 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025.

Actions numbers 4 to 6 were approved in a single motion by Commissioner Faber, seconded by Vice Chair Gunther and approved unanimously.

- 7) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the temporary art project proposal, *Small Streams of Care Become a Pool of Love* by Rashaad Newsome, submitted by Orange Barrell Media, for exhibition on the electronic billboard at 8497 Sunset Blvd. (The NOW) for the first year of operation with an anticipated start date of December 1, 2024 - November 30, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Faltz, seconded by Vice Chair Gunther and approved unanimously.

B. 2024 WeHo Pride Arts Festival Final Report and Recommendations for the 2025 WeHo Pride Arts Festival

The Commission received a final report on the 2024 WeHo Pride Arts Festival, considered recommendations for future programming, and provided direction for the 2025 WeHo Pride Arts Festival.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Received a final report on the 2024 WeHo Pride Arts Festival.
- 2) Approved the LA LGBT Center to host and produce the festival May 23-25, 2025, and directed staff to explore alternate dates for 2026. **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved noting an abstain vote from Commissioner Faber.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Arts Grant Program 2025 Funding

The Commission reviewed the scores provided by the peer review panel for the 2025 Arts Project Grant, Community Arts, TGI+ Arts, and WeHo Artist Grant applicants and recommended funding allocations for the 2025 calendar year based on those scores. Grantees being recommended for funding include Synchrony, Arts Bridging the Gap, Invertigo Dance Theatre, Mak Center for Art and Architecture, Women's Voices Now, Beyond Baroque (Pride Poets), ARTRONIKA, Nose Wiggle Productions INC, Shenandoah Harris, Susan Elaine Cole, Don C Tinling, Mylove West, THESTYLEGUYDE, Summer Jade Leavitt, Umi Hsu, Yozmit The DogStar, Queen Agelina (Drag Queen), Ryan Kiernan, Samara Goodman, Philip Marc Tarley, Megan Mueller, Christian Cintron, Fritzwa, and Justin Lee.

ACTION:

The Commission recommended Scenario A for funding allocations for the 2025 Arts Project Grant, Community Arts, TGI+ Arts, and WeHo Artist Grants and forwarded the recommendations to the City Council for approval. **Motioned by Commissioner Faltz, seconded by Commissioner Faber and approved noting a no vote from Chair Moreno-Freedman.**

B. 2025 Musicians and Performers Roster

The Commission considered applications received for the 2025 Musicians and Performers Roster and approved a short list of twenty (20) artists for the 2025 WeHo Sounds Concert Series.

ACTION:

- 1) The Commission approved the 2025 Musicians and Performers Roster.
- 2) The Commissioner approved the short list of twenty (20) artists and added artists Austin P. Mckenzie, Dear Emmy and EMI SECREST for consideration in the 2025 WeHo Sounds Concert Series. **Motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Faltz and approved unanimously. During the motion, Commissioner Gantman acknowledged artists Aneesa Strings, Chien Chien Lu, and Ethio Cali.**

C. Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Subcommittee Structures and Appointments

The Commission reviewed and considered approval of its Subcommittee's structures (Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee, Urban Art Subcommittee, and the Art on the Outside Subcommittee) for the FY 2025 as proposed by the Chair and consider appointing a commissioner to sit on the Library Cultural Programming Committee.

ACTION:

The Commissioner approved the Subcommittee structure for FY 2025 for the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee, the Urban Art Subcommittee, and the Art on the Outside Subcommittee, and Library Cultural Programming Committee. **Motioned by Vice Chair Gunther, seconded by Commissioner Faltz and approved unanimously.**

D. Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission and Subcommittee Re-Scheduling in November and December 2024

The Commission considered moving all Commission and Subcommittee meetings in November and December 2024, to accommodate major holidays and city events in November and December. In November 2024, Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee (PACA) will be cancelled; Urban Art Subcommittee (UA) will meet November 7 in the Community Meeting Room, 1st floor of City Hall; and Art on the Outside Subcommittee (AOTO) & Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) will meet November 14 at the Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5&6. In December 2024, PACA will meet December 5; UAS will meet December 12; and AOTO & ACAC will meet December 19.

ACTION:

The Commissioner approved the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meetings and locations in November and December 2024, to accommodate major holidays and city events in November and December. **Motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Gantman and approved unanimously.**

V. EXCLUDED CONSENT None.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT None.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gantman expressed his excitement to be back in the Commission.

Commissioner Faber congratulated Vice-Chair Gunther and Chair Moreno-Freedman on their new roles.

Commissioner Lee requested an update from staff on Weaver Walk and announced that she will return to the Commission in January following the conclusion of her maternity leave.

Vice Chair Gunther thanked everyone for the thoroughness of the meeting.

Commissioner Faltz thanked everyone for the meeting and expressed that he will miss Commissioner Lee during her absence.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman announced that she will be participating in this year's Circa Festival. She also shared that she will be leading a workshop on October 20, 2024, and thanked everyone for the efficient meeting.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Arts Coordinator Michael Che extended best wishes to Commissioner Lee, welcomed Commissioner Gantman, and announced that the arts internship application will close on October 16, 2024. He also shared that the next Drag Story Hour will be on October 5, 2024, an online WeHo Reads event *Creating Queer Families and Communities* on October 9, 2024 and Poet Laureate Jen Cheng will be featured in upcoming events.

Arts Specialist Joy Tribble also extended her best wishes to Commissioner Lee, welcomed Commissioner Gantman, and expressed gratitude to Commissioner Moreno-Freedman for attending Free Theatre in the Park. She also thanked the Commission for their support and approval of Item 4B.

Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff expressed her gratitude to the Commission for approving item 4A. She also highlighted several upcoming grantee events in October: Our Patch: LGBTQ+ Life from Cradle to Grave on October 1, 2024; Bridges Across Homelands on October 5, 2024; Intervals in Erasure, also on October 5, 2024; and Newstages Presents: Stepping Stones, an Intergenerational LGBTQ+ Arts Project, on October 27, 2024. Additionally, Eva shared the success of the WeHo Artist Roundtable held on September 14, 2024.

Public Art Administrator Marcus Mitchell shared an update about the Weaver's Walk artwork. He also announced the Art in Odd Places Workshop with Ed Woodam, on September 27, 2024.

Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Dennice Oceguela extended her best wishes to Commissioner Lee, welcomed Commissioner Gantman, and congratulated Commissioner Moreno-Freedman on her first meeting as Chair.

Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann announced several upcoming events including Boty Politic by Nancy Baker Cahill will open on October 1, 2024, an artist's reception will be held on October 4, 2024, and an Artists & Icons event with Nancy Baker Cahill in conversation with Patrisse Cullors on October 16, 2024.


IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission authorized staff to develop the agenda for the meeting on Thursday, October 24, 2024.

X. ADJOURNMENT


The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:39 p.m. to its meeting scheduled for October 24, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. to be held at the West Hollywood City Hall, 1st Floor – Community Meeting Room located at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
ON THIS 24th DAY OF OCTOBER 2024.



DAWN MORENO-FREEDMAN
COMMISSION CHAIR

ATTEST:



DENNICE OCEGUERA,
RECORDING SECRETARY