



**SAN DIEGO COUNTY
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION**

**February 21, 2025, 1 PM
County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 207A, San Diego, CA 92101**

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 1:01 PM.

1. ROLL CALL

Present:

Ladan Akbarnia
Jim Gilliam
Monica Hernandez
Jennifer Jeffries
Bob Lehman
Renée Richetts
Felicia Shaw
Ada Shido
Annaleece Wakefield

Absent:

Jay Bell
Lucas O'Connor
Sharlene O'Keefe
Juliet Rodriguez

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES FOR JANUARY 29, 2025

ACTION: Moved by Richetts, seconded by Hernandez, approve the minutes for the January 29, 2025 meeting.

AYES: Ladan Akbarnia, Jim Gilliam, Monica Hernandez, Jennifer Jeffries, Bob Lehman, Renée Richetts, Felicia Shaw, Ada Shido, Annaleece Wakefield

OPPOSED: none

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Policy on Commissioning Art at the County

Presentation attached on next page. Staff presented proposal for commissioning art at the County that isn't part of a capital project. Feedback from Commission includes:

- Limiting policy to interior art
- Flexibility if using artist roster for artists that may not be on artist
- Possible involvement of the Commission in selection

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- b. **Public Art Website**
Staff provided an update on the County's public art webpage, starting with new Public Health Lab pieces for its opening. The full transition is expected by June/July, with more artworks added gradually. The landing page will feature clickable images leading to details like artist, title, year, and media. The commission prioritized a search-by-artist function and noted a map feature would only be useful if tied to a walking tour.
- c. **Budget Briefing Updates**
Of the Commissioners that met, messaging has been that there is no money available. However, there could be a board letter done to amplify and support the activities that the commission is doing.
- d. **Commission Retreat**
Felicia Shaw presented on ideas and reasons for a retreat. Commission agreed a retreat to revisit the strategic plan and goals would be good.

**San Diego County Arts and Culture Commission
Retreat Planning Discussion**

- I. **Why Retreat?**
 - SDCAC will be celebrating its 2nd anniversary in April:
 - Dedicated time to reflect on past accomplishments
 - Strengthen relationships with one another
 - Refresh understanding of organization's current and future challenges
 - Plan for the future
- II. **Issues to Address**
 - Strategic plan: What have we done; where are we now?
 - Subject Matter Education and LAA Best Practices: changing political environment, advocacy fundamentals, fund development, grantmaking and other programs and services, understanding our ecosystem
 - Organizational and Individual Self-assessment: Commissioner roles and responsibilities, relationships to County Supervisors, relationships to arts and culture community,
 - Marketing and communications: messaging about the public value of the arts
- III. **Planning**
 - Establish a commitment from members to hold a retreat
 - Appoint a task force:
 - Determine purpose
 - Set goals and objectives
 - Plan logistics {who, where, when}
 - Board approves the plan
 - Prepare draft agenda and confirm facilitator

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- Hold retreat
- Follow up on the action plan from the retreat

IV. Next Steps

- Appoint Task Force
- Solicit support from the County

e. State Local Partnership Update

Staff met with the City to hear about what the City will be doing with the State Local Partnership funding, as well to hear about the Poetry Out Loud competition that is put on. The new requirement from the State is to include data on the programs in which the funding is spent on. Information will be shared with Commissioners once received.

f. Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month

Public Comment: Patricia Frischer announced that North County Arts Network will be hosting Open Your Hearts to North County Arts as part of Arts, Culture and Creativity Month. It is a 4 week promotion for all events in North County.

Commission discussed if they wanted to do an event this year in April. They agreed it would be best to push out events, including the Casa Familiar event on April 4. Everybody was also notified that Advocacy Day would be on April 23.

g. Artist Count

San Diego ART Matters will be doing the Artists Count, in partnership with University of San Diego doing the literature review and the County assisting with some of the data work. The rest will be done by San Diego ART Matters or contracted out.

San Diego Artists Count Scope of Work

Activity	Description
Synthesis of existing literature	An overview of San Diego arts history and research literature on the impact of the arts.
A representative sample survey of San Diego County residents	A survey focused on the importance of the arts to the San Diego community.
Interviews with San Diego County creatives	Interviews will be conducted to reveal the experiences and perspectives of local artists and provide a foundation for the survey of local creatives.
Survey of San Diego County creatives	A survey focused on quantifying interview findings and identifying policies and stakeholders.
Stakeholder Mapping	A comprehensive list of regional organizations that support, benefit from, or are otherwise engaged in local art production.

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Policy Matrix	Policies that could advance the arts, and associated time, effort, benefits, and costs.
Report	A research report including results of literature review, surveys, interviews, stakeholder mapping, and policy matrix.
Map and Website	A website with summary results and a map of creative sites in San Diego.
Option: Partner to Advance Policy	Engage PtC's Policy Team to shepherd policies identified in the policy matrix through the process, writing board letters, municipal ordinances, etc.

- h. Meeting Next Month
Commissioners agree no need for a full meeting next month.

5. COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE/PROJECT FORMATION, APPOINTMENTS, AND REPORTS

- a. Strategic Planning
Next meeting to be either on March 4 at 2:30 PM or March 6 at 1 PM.
- b. Budget
No update as already discussed earlier.
- c. Public Art Program
Next meeting to be scheduled around lunchtime on March 10 through 13.
- d. Local Arts Agency Learning Network
There have been two meetings of the learning network, one in person and one on zoom. The last one via zoom was on grants. The next scheduled in person, with an invitation to the Commission to come audit, is on March 19 at A Reason to Survive.

6. APPOINTMENTS TO PUBLIC ART PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Groundbreaking at Casa de Oro library occurred. Committee should be meeting soon.

7. STAFF REPORT

- Strategic Plan Presentation on February 25 Board of Supervisors meeting
- Library is having artist/performer/educator sign ups currently
- Youth Recruitment will be starting soon.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- District 4 has a virtual grant workshop on March 6.
- March 10 starts the Performing Arts Equitable Payroll Fund, which will be first come first serve.
- Fallbrook Arts Center is doing an Impressions: Small Works exhibit running through the end of March, with a Watercolor Exhibition following after.
- Proposal on Youth Engagement with Youthwill to be put together for next meeting.
- Fleet, in partnership with Prebys, is doing a Creative Catalyst Workshop Series.

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9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:03 PM.