



**SAN DIEGO COUNTY
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
ARTS INITIATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE**

July 30, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 402A, San Diego, CA 92101

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER | [View Here](#)

Commissioner Jay Bell called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL | [View Here](#)

Present: Jay Bell, Jim Gilliam, Monica Hernandez, Bob Lehman, Renée Richetts

Absent: None

3. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS | [View Here](#)

None

4. CHAIR'S REPORT | [View Here](#)

Public Comments: None

a. Introductions

Garlyn Mohler, Group Program Manager – IT, Land Use and Environmental Group, who will be supporting meeting technology was introduced.

b. Other Reports

The Arts Initiative Subcommittee is scheduled to meet on August 17 and September 3, 2026.

Chair Bell reminded the subcommittee that the County's *Investing in San Diego County Arts and Culture Initiative* has \$2.75 million in FY26-27 budget and summarized the annual allocations for artists, creative space, and binational creative economy work and one-time allocation for the Black Arts and Culture District, and that setting up the structure for annual investments will be important and congratulated the subcommittee members for their efforts.

5. PRESENTATION ITEMS | [View Here](#)

Public Comments: None

Commissioner Bob Lehman arrives

a. County's *Investing in San Diego County Arts and Culture Initiative* Updates

Chair Bell called on Christine E. Jones, Manager of Art, Film and Creative Industries, to present the item. Jones provided an overview of the initiative including Board of Supervisors direction, research foundations, and upcoming program conceptual development. Key components discussed included: County's current evaluation of infrastructure needs for successful program implementation; steps for developing program concepts and structure; the Arts and Culture Commission and its Arts Initiative subcommittee's advisory role, including review of the draft guidelines; and key initiative components, including artist grant/capacity building,

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artist-in-residence program, artist space grant/capacity building, Black Arts and Culture District, County arts and cultural district designation program, binational creative economy, and broader creative sector systems. Jones outlined Board requirements, national best practices, and local evidence that may help inform early development of the initiative components. She reviewed national trends in flexible artist support models, year-long artist residencies embedded in municipal departments, creative space development models, cultural district designation practices, and cross-border creative economy strengthening. The County team continues foundational assessments and will return with draft program concepts for subcommittee input at the next meeting.

6. STAFF REPORTS

Public Comments: None
No reports.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Bell adjourned the meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.