



**Stephen Seymour, District 1**  
**VACANT, District 1**  
**Deepa Nair, District 2**  
**Lois Fried, District 2**  
**Andrea Jones, Dist. 3**  
**Josephine Deciron, District 3**  
**Jeanne Heise, District 4**  
**Farah Yasmeeen Shaikh, District 4**  
**Victoria Magbilang, District 5**  
**Reno Anoa'i, District 5**

**County Executive's Office**  
**400 County Center**  
**Redwood City, CA 94063**  
**[www.smcgov.org/smcac](http://www.smcgov.org/smcac)**



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS COMMISSION**  
**Wednesday, February 19, 2025 – 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.**  
**455 County Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Room 101, Redwood City, CA 94063**

**MINUTES**

- 1. Roll Call** Chair, Commissioner Magbilang called the meeting to order at 3:01 with roll call.  
In Attendance: Commissioners Jones, Magbilang, Fried, Seymour, Heise, Nair, and Deciron  
Absent: Commissioners Shaikh and Anoa'i  
Staff: Aimee Shapiro, Mara Grimes  
Guest: Florence Wong, Commission on Disabilities, Dayna Chung and Susan Takalo of the Commission on the Status of Women
- 2. Agenda Amendments**  
None
- 3. Oral Communications**  
None
- 4. Consideration of Minutes** of November 20, 2024, and January 15, 2025, regular meeting minutes, were not voted on as many of the Commissioners abstained since they had not attended those meetings. A motion to approve the December 11, 2024, special meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Fried and seconded by Commissioner Heise and approved unanimously. The Admin-Manager stated that she would check on the rules around voting on minutes.
- 5. Presentation**  
Dayna Chung and Susan Takalo of the Commission on the Status of Women presented their processes for collecting data for their report to the Board of Supervisors.  
Key takeaways:
  - It is important to be organized and good project management was the key to their success.
  - Get buy in from the group and share the work.
  - Look for partners that can help with the work such as gathering data, making introductions, etc.
  - Gather data from multiple sources if possible.
  - Make a realistic plan based on goals and availability of Commission members and resources.
  - Time commitment can vary depending on each person's tasks, abilities, and time available.
  - Having the support of Supervisor Corzo on the project was a big help and gave lots of good feedback.
  - The Commission used some of their time at monthly meetings and also the subcommittees met during the month. As far as time commitment, the lead person spent about an hour weekly and the committee members, 4-5 hours weekly.
- 6. Staff Reports**

*Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for a regular Arts Commission meeting are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Commission. The Commission has designated the Board of Supervisors Office, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063, for the purpose of making those public records available for inspection. The documents are also available to be sent electronically by e-mailing [artscommission@smcgov.org](mailto:artscommission@smcgov.org). In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), auxiliary aids and services for this meeting will be provided upon request when given three days' notice. For the safety of those sensitive to airborne chemicals, please refrain from wearing chemically based products.*

**Aimee Shapiro:** Director told the Commissioners that she did not send them the information on the nonprofit organizations in their district as discussed at the last meeting as it became clear that she needed to meet with the Supervisors sooner. She stated that she did share the information we had gathered so far and that she got very good responses from the ones she met with. She went on to say that she would still like the Commissioners to work on reviewing and adding to the lists. The Admin-Manager offered to put the documents on the Google Drive so that the Commissioners could access them easily. Updates for OAC:

- A selection committee will meet next month to interview the top three applicants for the 2025-26 Poet Laureate. They are reviewing and rating the applications now. The results will be announced in March, and they will attend a Board of Supervisor's meeting in April.
- The OAC partnered with CORA to showcase artwork made during workshops with artists at Art Bias in the fall. The show and reception will be held at the Peninsula Book Collaborative in Daly City on February 21.
- The Navigation Center Mural has been completed and a small celebration with Life Moves and the artist Heather Hardison will be held on February 28.
- Arts Advocacy Day is on April 23 and will be held in Sacramento. The Director shared that she is a captain and will be setting up meetings with State Legislators to advocate for the importance of the arts. More information will be coming, and she encouraged the Commissioners to sign up and join us.
- The Youth Arts Fellows projects are now on the calendar of events, and she hoped that the Commissioners would attend and support them.

**Mara Grimes:**

- The OAC held the Poetry Out Loud Competition online on February 6. Eight teens from San Mateo County participated and Alexis Choi won the competition and will go on to the state competition in Sacramento representing our County on March 16-17. Thanks to Jeanne and Lois for their help as judges.
- Women's View 2025 Art Exhibition – the exhibit will be held at Twin Pines Art Center in Belmont from March 5 – 30. We have 68 applications so far and the signups close tonight. We will need their help hanging the artwork and staffing the reception.
- In celebration of Earth Day, the OAC is partnering with the County Office of Sustainability to hold a Climate Ribbon event in April. The event will have an interactive art installation encouraging participants to reflect on this central question: What do you love and hope to never lose to climate change? County employees and members of the public can share their responses to this question by writing on recycled ribbons and hanging these on a display. Lyrical Opposition and Aileen Cassinetto will perform. The Admin-Manager stated that she would send a link for more information on the event. We will need help making ribbons and she proposed we do so at the next Arts Commission meeting.

**7. Discussion Items**

***A. Possible projects for the Arts Commission to support including involvement in the County Art Fair, the September Arts & Culture Fest and surveying the County arts and culture organizations.***

Commissioner Magbilang suggested that she would like the Arts Commission to play a bigger role in the County Fair this year and asked if the Commissioners would like to be more involved.

Commissioner Seymour added that this Art Fair was the longest running art show in the County. He said that it was a place for all and included activities like performances, dance classes, in addition to the fine arts. He added that Commissioner Fried has agreed to help with poetry and literature and that he has spoken to the administrators of the Fair and they are okay with having the Arts Commission involvement. He added that he will also need jurors for the fine arts and would like to consider other types of art such as last year he brought in skateboard deck artists. He is also considering a comedy show. The event starts May 30 and runs for a week. Commissioner Magbilang asked the Commissioners if they would be willing to take on the Art Fair as a commitment.

Commissioner Deciron asked who funded the program and Commissioner Seymour replied that the County supported the program.

Commissioner Seymour noted that submissions were down since Covid, but he hopes that they will increase with more options and more visibility, allowing every piece submitted to be displayed.

Commissioner Nair stated that she would like to be involved especially if there could be a film component.

Commissioner Seymour suggested that Commissioner Nair submit a plan to him on how films and filmmakers

could be featured.

Commissioner Magbilang suggested that the Commission form 3 subcommittees; Art Fair, Arts & Culture Fest, and Arts & Culture Organizations Surveys.

Commissioner Heise noted that the entire Commission needs to be involved in the survey work if that is the basis for reporting to the Supervisors. Commissioner Magbilang confirmed that the surveys would inform the report.

Commissioner Jones asked if there was a deadline for the report and also agreed to be involved in the Fair. Commissioner Heise asked what is the focus of the Arts Commission? The Admin-Manager suggested that this might be a good time for them to complete a work plan that was recommended by the consultant at the retreat last year.

The Director asked if each of the three items up for discussion need to be evenly weighted especially since the Art Fair and Arts & Culture Fest are seasonal.

Commissioner Magbilang suggested that we need leadership of each of the subcommittees.

Commissioner Jones stated that it seems like the mission is met by supporting the report and the Art Fair while the Arts & Culture Fest is owned by the OAC.

The Commissioners agreed to form subcommittees at the March 19 meeting.

## 8. Action Item

A. Discussion and potential revisions to meeting schedule for 2025.

There was not enough time, and it was decided to bring this up at the March 19 meeting.

B. Revise the by-laws to change the meeting schedule.

A motion to revise the by-laws to reflect the change of monthly meeting, with the exception of July and December was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Nair and were approved unanimously.

Commissioner Magbilang thanked everyone for their work and participation.

## 9. Adjournment

Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:49 pm.

**NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING: March 19, 2025 – 3:00-5:00 PM**