



Stephen Seymour, District 1
VACANT, District 1
VACANT, District 2
Lois Fried, District 2
Andrea Jones, Dist. 3
VACANT, District 3
Anna Westendorf, District 4
Farah Yasmeen Shaikh, District 4
Victoria Magbilang, District 5
Reno Anoa'i, District 5

County Executive's Office
500 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063
www.smcgov.org/smcac



REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS COMMISSION
Wednesday, September 17, 2025 — 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM
NEW LOCATION: 400 County Center, 1st Floor,
Criminal Justice Training Room, Redwood City, CA 94063

MINUTES

- 1. Roll Call** Chair, Commissioner Magbilang called the meeting to order at 3:30PM with roll call.
In Attendance: Commissioners Magbilang, Fried, Shaikh, Seymour, and Westendorf, and Jones
Absent: Commissioner Anoa'i
Staff: Mara Grimes, Aimee Shapiro
Guests:
Florence Wong, Commission on Disabilities shared that the Commission on Disabilities is partnering with the Office of Arts and Culture for their annual Disabilities Arts Showcase the month of October. This year it will be held at the Center for Creativity. Supervisor Gauthier's office is underwriting the costs of a reception and artist workshop.
Leslie Holzman, San Mateo County Parks Foundation, advised that the city of Burlingame is considering of forming an Arts Commission and developing a public art policy.
Cindy Hwang, Resident of Foster City who is involved in music programs in the schools and volunteering with the Arts Commission.
- 2. Agenda Amendments**
None
- 3. Oral Communications**
None
- 4. Assignment of a task recorder**
Commissioner Magbilang asked if one of the Commissioners would be willing to be a taskmaster for this meeting and reminded the Commissioners that it is a running list and lives on the Google Drive with other Arts Commission documents. Commissioner Fried volunteered to do so.
- 5. Staff Reports**
Director:
The Director reported:
 - The Causeway Mural on Winslow Street in Redwood City is complete. There was a small reception in the morning today. She encouraged the Commissioners to stop by and take a look.
 - The public art project at the Cordilleras Medical Facility has changed from outdoor furniture to a sculpture. Details are being worked on.
 - The OAC received their budget and with that are able to offer another grant cycle for arts and Culture nonprofits. The amount available has increased from last year and the timeline will be similar to last year with a call starting in October and awards distributed by the end of the year. She added that we will need several Commissioners to be on the grant review panel.

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 500 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. 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.

Admin-Manager

- The application for the 2025-26 Youth Arts Fellows has been posted and applications were due on August 24 and this year there were 23 applicants. One youth from each supervisorial district will be selected. Interviews will take place next week.
- The OAC held a reception for the new artwork in the lobby of 500 County Center on August 28, 2025. Several of the artists spoke in addition to Supervisor Corzo and Justin Mates.
- Poetry Out Loud launched on September 1 and the OAC is looking to grow the program again this year. The Poet Laureate will be a part of the competition.

6. Discussion Items

A. Updates to emails sent to Supervisors by Commissioners

Commissioner Jones stated that she had sent the email to Supervisor Mueller but had not heard back. She will follow up with his office.

Commissioner Westendorf noted that she was waiting on Commissioner Shaikh.

Commissioner Seymour said that he had an interview with Supervisor Speier to see if he would be asked to remain on the Commission.

B. Updates on meetings with Supervisors

Commissioner Magbilang stated that she and Commissioner Anoa'i sent an email at the last Commission meeting. In doing so, Supervisor Canepa responded quickly, and she met with him and his chief of staff online. They are very interested in the big impact and benefits that the arts provide for the County. They wanted to know the positive results and mentioned that they were very appreciative of the art being displayed in 500 County Center.

Commissioner Fried advised that she sent the email and had a good meeting with Supervisor Corzo and Ms. Rioni. She wanted the Arts Commission to collaborate with the cities in each of their districts. She appreciated the work the Commission is doing and is open to future meetings.

C. Review timeline progress and Update on the survey questions and other committee meetings

Commissioner Magbilang shared that she was concerned that the Commission was behind on the timeline and that they might consider adjusting dates.

Commissioner Jones asked if they needed to wait to talk to the Supervisors to move forward. She suggested that the group finalize the questions now rather than wait.

Commissioner Seymour stated that the Commission can finalize the questions by the next meeting and send them out in January with a due date of February. That would still give the Commission time to aggregate the information.

The Director asked Commissioner Magbilang what she thought was missing from the information they had already. She also asked who would be responsible for aggregating the information once it was received.

Commissioner Magbilang noted that the group is excited at the meetings, but work is not getting done between meetings.

Commissioner Westendorf suggested that the Commission needed a lead person to be responsible for making sure that the deadlines are met. As far as the questions, she noted that we should consider what we are trying to prove and work backwards. Ask questions that lead to that conclusion.

Commissioner Seymour agreed that we needed a decider and noted that the group had already done the work to reach the conclusions needed in the questions.

Commissioner Westendorf recommended that the group make any final changes to the survey by October 15. She agreed that she would be the decider and the aggregator. She will have everything ready at the next meeting in November.

D. Updates to September Arts & Culture Fest 9-28

The Admin-Manager stated that most everything was in place now for the event and that they were much further ahead than the past year. She asked the Commissioners to sign up for various shifts to help during the day. She thanked them for their support, especially Commissioners Fried and Seymour.

7. Action Item

A. None

8. Adjournment

Commissioner Magbilang thanked everyone for their work and participation and adjourned the meeting at 5:05 pm.

NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING: November 19, 2025 – 3:30-5:00 PM