

Municipal Art Committee

7/8/2025

Meeting Date

9/9/2025

Date Minutes Were Approved

Rhonda Bell

Rhonda Bell (Sep 23, 2025 14:44:59 PDT)

Chair

CERTIFICATION AND ATTESTATION

I hereby certify that the accompanying document is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the aforementioned meeting. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that the quorum was present.

Brittany Garcia

Brittany Garcia (Sep 23, 2025 14:42:36 PDT)

Staff Liaison





MUNICIPAL ART COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 8th, 2025, at 6 P.M.
Special Meeting
Join the meeting by clicking the link below:
LINK: [MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING](#)

Virtual Access to the online meeting will be available 5 minutes prior to the meeting.

1. ROLL CALL AND STATEMENT OF PARTICIPATION BY THE STAFF LIAISON

Present: Rhonda Bell, Denise Thiel, Gaven Mejia, Janice Graham, Sara Ivey, Deanna Sapata

Staff: Marissa Dailey, Stacy Swainston, Brittany Garcia, Chantel Welker

2. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCE

The Committee does not comment on items raised during Unscheduled Public Appearances; however, staff maybe directed to report back to the Committee at a future date or to schedule items raised for a future agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Municipal Art Committee will consider the approval of the minutes for the meeting on Tuesday, May 20th, 2025. The Committee will take appropriate action.

Motion: Denise Thiel motions to approve the May 20, 202 Meeting Minutes.

2nd: Gaven Mejia

Approved 6-0

4. PUBLIC ART PROPOSAL – FIRE STATION #171

The Municipal Art Committee will consider a proposal for the mural at Fire Station #171. The committee will take appropriate action.

The Municipal Art Committee was presented with the updated rendering of the mural proposed for Fire Station #171. Janice expressed her appreciation for the design, noting her enjoyment of the colors and the inclusion of cactus imagery. She added that Arizona is known for its sunsets, and felt the mural successfully captures the beauty of the local scenery.

Motion: Janice Graham motions to move forward with the proposal submitted for Fire Station #171.

2nd: Sara Ivey

Approved 6-0

5. PUBLIC ART PROPOSAL – WESTERN AVENUE PLAZA

The Municipal Art Committee will consider a proposal to move forward with an artist for the Western Avenue Plaza. The committee will take appropriate action.

Staff reported that they had conducted additional research to identify artists whose work might better reflect both the Space and the City's cultural identity. Staff is recommending that it would be best to proceed with a direct selection process rather than continuing with a general call to artists.

Board Members:

Chair – Rhonda Bell
Vice Chair – Denise Thiel
Gaven Mejia
Janice Graham

Sara Ivey
Deanna Sapata

Staff:

Marissa Dailey – Arts, Culture & Library Manager
Brittany Garcia – Administrative Assistant
Stacy Swainston – Parks, Recreation & Libraries
Assistant Director

Avondale

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During the conversation, Gaven inquired about the possibility of incorporating an element of light into the call to artists. Deanna suggested that Mary Lucking Studio should be considered for the Friendship Park Dog Park project. Rhonda raised a question regarding the Blessing artwork, noting that the words featured could be the A-Words, and emphasized that there should be flexibility in that choice.

The discussion then turned to Chihuly's work. Jan shared that she had seen several exhibits and found them beautiful but noted that maintaining cleanliness would be an important consideration. Deanna added that the botanical garden utilizes helpers, and that a similar approach could be easily incorporated into a program.

Motion: Gaven Mejia motions to proceed with direct selection for Western Avenue Plaza
2nd: Jan Graham
Approved 6-0

6. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS

The Municipal Art Committee and Staff may provide brief comments on current events and issues. This item is for information only. Items requiring discussion, deliberation, or legal action must be placed on a future Committee meeting agenda.

Rhonda asked the Board if anyone had attended the City of Avondale's "Light Up the Sky" event, noting that it drew 10,500 attendees and was a beautiful celebration.

Janice inquired about the status of the DiBari sculptures, recalling that staff had previously indicated they would explore options for sculptures within a lower budget. Staff reported that the City Manager's Office has recommended postponing the BLVD Public Art search until more businesses in the area are built and established.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be in person on Tuesday, August 19th, 2025 for discussion and action.

Motion: Denise Thiel motions to adjourn the meeting.
2nd: Deanna Sapata
Approved 6-0

Meeting Adjourned at 6:42pm.

Board Members:

Chair – Rhonda Bell
Vice Chair – Denise Thiel
Gaven Mejia
Janice Graham

Sara Ivey
Deanna Sapata

Staff:

Marissa Dailey – Arts, Culture & Library Manager
Brittany Garcia – Administrative Assistant
Stacy Swainston – Parks, Recreation & Libraries
Assistant Director