

CITY OF KENNEWICK
ARTS COMMISSION

April 9, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

6:01 PM

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Commissioner Chair McKenzie Kennedy
Commissioner Vice Chair Richard Reuther
Commissioner Jason Watson
Commissioner Jessy Southrd
Commissioner Austin Wingle
Commissioner Wren Hughsd

ABSENT:

Commissioner Bethany Lee

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Chair Kennedy moved to approve the agenda as presented;
Commissioner Hughs seconded. All in favor.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Southard moved to approve the minutes; Commissioner Hughs
seconded. All in Favor

a. Past Meeting Minutes

5. VISITORS

Marguerite Finch, our incoming Commissioner, joined the meeting to share a bit about her background, including her work as a sculptor and professor. She received her BFA in Sculpture from the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire and her MFA from Washington State University. Her work incorporates a variety of mediums, including metalworking and casting, laser-cut acrylic and wood, found objects, and 3D-printed plastic. Marguerite also spoke about her recent move, her interest in observing how the Arts Commission operates, and her excitement about collaborating with fellow commissioners.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Columbia Center Mall Request

Simon's Mall has initiated an art project and has reached out to the City for assistance in gathering historical images from the mall's original construction and various remodels over the years. These images will be used to create a photo wall highlighting the mall's history. In addition, the mall plans to install a new sculpture in the location previously occupied by the water fountain and has inquired whether the Arts Commission has recommendations for potential artists. Commissioner Warren has expressed interest in contributing to the sculpture project. Further details are needed regarding the project's budget, timeline, and specific artistic direction.

b. Art Repair Needs

Jason brought to the Commission's attention the urgent need for repairs to the sculpture located at the Tri-Cities Visitor Center. Rohana noted that the original artist had not responded to outreach attempts. In the meantime, she obtained a quote from another artist who has completed previous public art projects in the area. The Arts Commission reviewed the quote and identified the following follow-up items for clarification:

1. Rohana will research and confirm the material composition of the sculpture from the original art piece.
2. Warren will conduct an in-person assessment of the sculpture to determine whether the damage is isolated and can be removed and repaired, or if the internal structure may require a full restoration.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Traffic Box Wrap Call for Artist

The Commission reviewed the text for the Traffic Box Wrap Call for Artists application. Rohana added language regarding eligibility and the use of AI-generated artwork. Due to the cancellation of the March meeting and the resulting delay in finalizing the application, the Commission voted to extend the submission deadline to June 2nd in order to provide artists with an additional weekend to submit their work.

McKenzie made a motion to approve the form with the updated deadline; Warren supported the motion, and Jesse seconded. All in favor.

8. BUDGET UPDATE

The Arts Commission currently has a budget balance of \$6,796.00. Rohana reported that she has submitted a request for a budget rollover of \$8,000.00 from the previous fiscal year to cover expenses related to the traffic box wraps that were delayed due to weather conditions. The outcome of the budget adjustment request is pending and will be determined at a later date.

9. CONCLUSION

Meeting concluded 6:27 PM