

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025 – 5:00 P.M.
WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL, FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM,
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Moreno-Freedman at 5:00 p.m.

A. Land Acknowledgement: Chair Moreno-Freedman read the Land Acknowledgement.

B. Pledge of Allegiance: Chair Moreno-Freedman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call:

Present: Commissioner Mito Aviles
Commissioner Cameron Faber
Commissioner Dan Faltz
Commissioner Martin Gantman
Commissioner Catherine Lee
Commission Chair Dawn Moreno-Freedman

Absent: Commission Vice Chair Sigourney Gunther

Also Present: Director of Economic Development Laura Biery
Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann
Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Dennice Oceguela
Public Art Administrator Marcus Mitchell
Arts Coordinator Michael Che
Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff
Arts Specialist Joy Tribble

D. Approval of the Agenda:

ACTION: Approval of the March 27, 2025 was motioned by Commissioner Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Faltz, and approved unanimously.

E. Approval of the February 27, 2025 Meeting Minutes:

ACTION: Approval of the February 27, 2025 was motioned by Commissioner Faber, seconded by Commissioner Aviles and approved unanimously.

F. Public Comment BETH STRIKER, Glendale, new Director and Curator of the MAK Center, introduced herself to the Commission and shared updates on upcoming programs and developments at the MAK Center.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following routine matter was acted upon by one motion. Approval of the Consent Calendar was **motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Faltz and approved unanimously.**

A. Posting of the Agenda

The agenda was posted with proper noticing procedures at City Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood Library and West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

ACTION: Received and filed. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Update from the City Clerk Regarding Video Recording Commission Meetings and Discussion of the Ralph M. Brown Act, Rosenberg's Rules of Order, and Overall Meeting Management Strategies

The City Clerk provided an update on the recording and publishing of Commission meetings beginning in April 2025 as well as the review of the Ralph M. Brown Act, Rosenberg's Rules of Order, and overall meeting management strategies.

ACTION:

Received the presentation from the City Clerk's Office.

B. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee

The Commission received a report from staff on the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee for its meeting held March 13, 2025 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Received and filed the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Received an update on the presentation for the 2025 WeHo Pride Arts Festival plan and provided feedback.
- 3) Approved the applications received from Achee, Adin Boyer, Artem Diaz Kolesov Fominyx, Artem Fominyx and Evelyn Lee, Beautiful Reflections, Boogaloo Assassins, Brendan Eder Ensemble, Buyepongo, California Sol, Catina DeLuna & Lado B Brazilian Project, Charlie Havenick, Chris Youmans, Cisco Swank, Concurrence, Cristo Osorio Flamenco/Latin Music Media, Cutty Flam, Davis Mallory, Del Harrison, DJ Mamabear, DJ Natasha Diggs, DJ Novena Carmel, Elizabeth Lyon, Elliott Caine Quintet, EMER and The Emersion Ensemble, Esabalu, Four Color Zack, Helix Collective, I. Nation Live, illijahbeats, Jeremy Sole, Jessica Sandidge, Jonathan Thomas Maiocco, Mark Evich, Mary Beth Abella, Mateo Segade, Mexico City Heartbreak, Miles Medina, MÔForró, Mostly Kosher, MURPHY'S FLAW, Oliver Twixt, Ozomatli, Parade Pignotti, Rob Milton, Rocky Dawuni, RoseGawd, Steven Cade, String Theory, T. Nikki Paige, The Adam Moezinia "Folk Element Trio", The Brothers Landau, The Delirians, The Do Over, The Lao Tizer Band, THE POWELL BROTHERS, Tonina, Utopia Tribe, Very Be Careful, Voices of Creation,

Zeinapur for the Musicians and Performers Roster. **Motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Faltz, and approved unanimously.**

- 4) Declined the applications received from 4 Lads From Liverpool, 8TPS, Acoustic Asylum, Acoustic Generation, Agape International Choir, Alexandra Olsson Andersen, Alison Lewis Quintet, Amber Claire, Andrew Sherbrooke, Anji Tan Quintet, Aretha Scruggs, Auntie Kayte, BEACH St. A GoGo!, Beeb\$ Feat. All The Kids, Bianca Orsi/ Tenor, Billy Nation: A Tribute to Billy Joel, Black From Home, Bobby Barron, BodaciousThang, Boogie Wonderland, Boundless by Amita, BREAKS, Brendan Eder Ensemble, Bri Giger, Candy Land, Canto Zenzero, Cardahlay, Casey Lipka, Cassie B, Catherine Psarakis, Chihshuan + Friends, Chloe Carbone and the Undecideds, Chuck Johnson Jazz Coalescence, Corporate Bike Culture, Country Nation, Crossroads Band, Crossroads Band, D Black W. Da Hat, Daniella Morrow, DAVIDO, Dear Darling, Diane Hubka & The Sun Canyon Band, DJ LRocktheParty, Dream Like Taylor, dreamTX, DUPLEXITY, Ecos de España: Spanish Classical & Flamenco Music & Dance, Ecos de España: Spanish Classical & Flamenco Music & Dance, Enchanted Melodies, Eric Ching Trio, Exploration Station, Faultlines, Figgy Baby, FrancescaTones, Gattison, George Sarah, Gone With the Winds, Grateful To The Core, Grupo Aberto, Hazel Wilder, Identity Theft The Band, Ishwari, JaeRa, the Visitor, JAKE GILL, Javi, JAZZMUN, Jeffrey Chan, JNX, Joel Martin's Grateful Zone OR Vintage Soundz, Julian Shah-Taylor, Juliana Beltran, Julianne Sillona - Sirena, K3YS, Klezmer juice band, L.A. Bluescasters, Las Chikas, Leah Van King, Leopold Nunan - Leo from Rio, Lily Smith, Lioness-Sia, Mac Nix, Marcelle & Boys From Ipanema, Marc'L, mariclé, Mary Chicken Soup And Rice, Matt Harkenrider & the Meltdowns, MATT VON RODERICK, Matthew Mallinger, Max Figueroa, Memberz Only 80s, Menghe Jing, Milli Crowley, Missus Jones-A Tribute To Amy Winehouse, MoOd, Modern Highway, Mr. Max, Murphy's Flaw, Mystical Joyride, Nekeith, Neverending Nina, Nick Mancini Collective, Nick Sefakis, NIKOLAS IV, NuDiamond The Funk Empress, Olivia Kellett, Orquesta Los Chicos Del Mambo, Os Zagueiros, Pacific Opera Project, PAN DULCE ft Alan Lightner (band), Da-Light (duo), Alan Lightner (solo), Petty Party (Celebrating the Music of Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers), Phazze One, Phoenixx, Pierre Guerrier, Poco Pocho, Princess Mallery, Raymond Michael's Tribute to Elvis or Casino Superstars Show, Realm Company, Robert Wayne\$, Runaway Fire, Ryan Cassata, Saginaw Rozzo, Sasha MaRi and Yazmin Monet Watkins, Saturday Night Bath, Sea Funk Brass Band, Setsuko Hata Jazz Quartet, Sgt. Pepper, Shakamon, Small Drone Orchestra, Stefan Linu, Sumeau, Sunflower Academy, Suns of Venice, Thalia Moore, The Breakfast Club, The C band, The Connie Converse Universe, The Donna Westwood Band, The Lunar Octet, The New Jet Set, The Platinum Beat, The Pussyboys, The Rayford Bros, The Remotes, The Urban Renewal Project, Thomas Nolan, Tim Russ Crew, Todd Stanford Country Band, Tomorrow's Tigers, Vivianne Taylor, VORA, WYO, ZOSIMO for the Musicians and Performers Roster. **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Lee, and approved unanimously.**

C. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from Commissioner Faltz on the Art on the Outside Subcommittee for its meeting held March 27, 2025 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Received and filed the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approved the applications from Katie Brightside, James Brutus, Karen Chen, Jeanette Degollado, Annie Hong, and Yuke Li for the WeHo Muralist Roster.
- 3) Denied the applications from Ragni Agarwal, Travis B., Charles Bragg, Courtney Bui, Jenai Davis, Analy Elnakat, Trisha Hautea, Jainai Jeffries, Jean Paul Langlois, Isabella Morillo, Arturo Nevarez, Armelle Vervialle Ngo, Alex Rodriguez, Ruben Rojas, Brandon Singleton, and Bonnie Turner for the WeHo Muralist Roster.

Actions numbers 2 and 3 were approved in a single motion by Commissioner Faltz seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved unanimously.

- 4) Approved the final artwork, *Natural Factors* by Noper, for exhibition at 9157 Sunset Boulevard (Streamlined Arbor) October 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026. **Motioned by Commissioner Faltz, seconded by Commissioner Lee, and approved noting a no vote from Commissioner Gantman.**
- 5) Approved the artwork, *Fruitsalad* by Brian Bress, for exhibition at from 8497 Sunset Boulevard (The Now) from when the billboard goes live – September 30, 2025. **Motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Faltz, and approved unanimously.**
- 6) Approved the artwork, *Cascading Entropies* by Eli Joteva, for exhibition at from 8501 Sunset Boulevard (Suncienea) from when the billboard goes live – September 30, 2025. **Motioned by Commissioner Faltz seconded by Commissioner Lee, and approved unanimously.**
- 7) Approved the Temporary Art Project Proposal, *The Seven Sisters*, created by artist Matthias for exhibition at the Santa Monica Boulevard at Doheny Drive median location from September 1, 2025 – August 30, 2026. **Motioned by Commissioner Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Lee, and approved unanimously.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Arts Programming in Recognition of Black History Month 2026

The Commission considered ways to highlight and support Black artists, determined eligible project types, a selection process to develop arts programming in observance of Black History Month, February 2026.

Commissioner Aviles suggested including a Black curator and Black artists as part of the programming

ACTION:

The Commission provided feedback and recommended that this item be further discussed and developed within the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee. **Motioned by Commissioner Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Faber, and approved unanimously.**

V. **EXCLUDED CONSENT** None.

VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT** None.

VII. **ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Faber thanked the Commission and staff for a great year of working together.

Commissioner Faltz thanked Commissioner Faber for their service in the Commission. He also shared that his first exhibition as curator at the Huntington Beach Art Center is now open and will be on view for the next two months.

Commissioner Gantman noted that it was a pleasure meeting Commissioner Faber. He also asked staff when the Commission should be expecting a report about the West Hollywood Art Project for 2028 Olympics (Los Angeles).

Chair Moreno-Freedman shared her experiences participating in the *Learn to Sew! Free Workshop Series for Drag Artists*. She concluded her comments by asking the Commission to adjourn the meeting in memory of West Hollywood resident and literary trailblazer Felice Picano.

VIII. **ITEMS FROM THE STAFF**

Arts Coordinator Mike Che shared a series of upcoming events and programs.. Highlights of National Poetry Month include the reading of a new poem by City Poet Laureate Jen Cheng, a National Poetry Month proclamation, poetry-themed street pole banners displayed throughout the month, an April 16 WeHo Reads event featuring former Poet Laureates Richard Blanco and Kim Dower, and a *Poetry Scrabble* writing workshop hosted by Jen Cheng. He shared that Queen Angelina will be the reader at the April 5 Drag Story Hour at the West Hollywood Library. He invited Commissioners to save the date for the Harvey Milk Day event on May 22 at West Hollywood Park, and the WeHo Pride Arts Festival, taking place May 23–25.

Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff shared the deadline to apply for arts grants is July 1. She also announced a WeHo Artists Roundtable on May 17 at the West Hollywood City

Council Chambers and the WeHo Arts Grant Program Workshops on May 21 and May 28, online.

Public Art Administrator Marcus Mitchell shared that the deadline to apply for the 9x9 Mural Artist Call for Digital 2D Artworks Request for Proposals is April 11, 2025.

Arts Specialist Joy Tribble announced *Summer Sounds Acoustic* on May 17 at Kings Road Park. She also shared that the deadline to apply for the Free Theatre in the Parks Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is April 25. To thanked Commissioner Faber for his service to the Commission.

Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Dennice Ocegüera thanked Commissioner Faber for his service as well and congratulated Queen Angelina for the success of *Mariachi Fiesta!: A celebration featuring Latinx LGBTQIA+ Talent*.

Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann shared that all of the opportunities and deadlines are listed on the city's webpage, www.weho.org/arts. She shared the deadline to apply for the Moving Image Media Art Program Prequalified List for Art Consultants Request for Qualifications is April 9, and the deadline to apply for the Moving Image Media Art Program Prequalified List for Artists, Curators, and Arts Organizations Request for Qualifications is May 1. In response to Commissioner Gantman, she shared that AEA Consulting, the consultant for the West Hollywood Art Project for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, will present the draft implementation plan to the Commission in April. She also provided insights into California Senate Bill 456, which addresses exemptions for muralists under the Contractors State License Law. Introduced on February 19, 2025, by Senator Angelique Ashby, with Senator John Laird as a coauthor, the bill aims to amend Section 7044 of the Business and Professions Code to exempt muralists from certain licensing requirements when producing murals under specific agreements. She concluded her comments by thanking Commissioner Faber for his time in the Commission.

Director of Economic Development Laura Biery echoed everyone's kind words about Commissioner Faber and expressed gratitude for his dedicated service to the Commission. Additionally, she shared an update that on April 21, during the City Council Meeting, there will be a Priority Setting Session.

IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission authorized staff to develop the agenda for the meeting on Thursday, April 24, 2025.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned in memory of Felice Picano at 6:27 p.m. to its meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. to be held at the West Hollywood City Hall Community Meeting Room located at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
ON THIS 24th DAY OF APRIL 2025.



DAWN MORENO-FREEDMAN
COMMISSION CHAIR

ATTEST: 

DENNICE OCEGUERA,
RECORDING SECRETARY