

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, JULY 24, 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: Commission Chair Dawn Moreno-Freedman  
Commission Vice Chair Sigourney Gunther  
Commissioner Heather Allyn  
Commissioner Mito Aviles  
Commissioner Martin Gantman  
Commissioner Catherine Lee

Absent: Commissioner Dan Faltz

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  
Arts Specialist Joy Tribble

**D. Approval of the Agenda:**

**ACTION:** Approval of the July 24, 2025 agenda with item 5A and 5B moved to the top of the agenda to be heard prior to unfinished business was **motioned by Commissioner Allyn, seconded by Vice Chair Gunther, and approved unanimously.**

**E. Approval of the June 26, 2025 Meeting Minutes:**

**ACTION:** Approval of the June 26, 2025 was **motioned by Vice Chair Gunther, seconded by Commissioner Allyn and approved unanimously.**

**F. Public Comment None.**

**II. ARTS MANAGER'S UPDATE**

Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann shared updates on the LGBTQ+ Coalition's July 15 meeting; 2026 Art on the Outside projects including the Art in Odd Places festival and upcoming exhibitions; fall Moving Image Media Art Program consultant work; planning for the Three-Year Plan/2028 Games; upcoming Arts Commission agenda items; and the new Subcommittee meeting schedule starting in September.

### III. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following routine matter was acted upon by one motion. Approval of the Consent Calendar was **motioned by Commissioner Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Allyn 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.**

### IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### A. **Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission received a report from Vice Chair Gunther on the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee for its meeting held July 10, 2025 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

##### **ACTION:**

The Commission approved eligible project types to include food festivals, community gatherings, and Jewish playwright readings. An RFP will be issued to seek event producers with experience in food, entertainment, and outreach within the Jewish community. Staff will confirm any additional production requirements for arts programming in observance of Jewish American Heritage Month, May 2026.

**Motioned by Commissioner Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved unanimously.**

#### B. **Urban Art Subcommittee Report**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission received a report from Commissioner Gantman on the Urban Art Subcommittee for its meeting held July 17, 2025 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

##### **ACTION:**

The Commission approved the proposed change for the final color of the urban Artwork *Before Picasso* by Karon Davis to be installed at the Melrose Avenue Gathering Place: Weavers Walk. **Motioned by Commissioner Allyn, seconded by Commissioner Aviles and approved unanimously.**

#### C. **Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Work Plan for FY25-26**

The Commission considered the final Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Work Plan for FY25-26.

##### **ACTION:**

The Commission approved the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Work Plan for FY25-26 **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Allyn, and approved unanimously.**

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Election of Chair and Vice Chair FY 25-26**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission nominated a new Chair and Vice-Chair to preside over the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) in accordance with the ACAC Bylaws.

**ACTION:**

The Commission approved Commissioner Gunther as Chair and Commissioner Lee as Vice-Chair. **Approved unanimously by the Commission.**

**B. Brown Act Discussion**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission received a presentation from staff about the Brown Act.

**ACTION:**

The Commission received the presentation.

**C. Discussion of the Title for the Plan for the Three-year Initiative of Arts and Culture Programming in the lead up to the 2028 Games**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission discussed working titles for the plan for the City's three-year initiative of the arts and culture programming in the lead up to the 2028 Games.

**ACTION:**

The Commission recommended *Bronze Silver Gold Creative Plan* as the title for the plan for the three-year initiative of arts and culture programming in the lead up to the 2028 Games and forwarded the recommended title to the City Council for approval. **Motioned by Commissioner Allyn, seconded by Commissioner Aviles and approved noting a no vote from Commissioner Gantman.**

**D. Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission and Subcommittee Re-Scheduling in November and December 2025**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission considered moving all Commission and Subcommittee meetings in November and December 2025, to accommodate major holidays in November and December. In November 2025, Urban Art Subcommittee (UA) will be cancelled; Art on the Outside Subcommittee (AOTO) and Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee (PACA) will meet on November 6; and the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission will meet November 20. In December 2025, UA will be cancelled; AOTO and PACA will meet December 4; and the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission will meet December 18.

**ACTION:**

The Commission approved rescheduling the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meetings and locations in November and December 2025, to accommodate major

holidays and city events in November and December. **Motioned by Vice Chair Gunther, seconded by Commissioner Aviles and approved unanimously.**

**VI. EXCLUDED CONSENT** None.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT** None.

**VIII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Allyn is sorry to miss the arts events this weekend, she was really looking forward to them.

Commissioner Aviles expressed appreciation for the Summer Sounds series and shared thoughts on arts marketing efforts. Requested that a future ACAC meeting be held in the Council Chambers. Also requested the meeting be adjourned in honor of Malcolm-Jamal Warner and Ozzy Osbourne.

Commissioner Lee expressed appreciation for the City's Arts Grant Program webpage, noting that it is clear, user-friendly, and highly informative.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman requested clarification on the location of Art in Odd Places festival activities on Sunday, shared thoughts on the new Tesla restaurant, and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Chair.

**IX. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF**

Arts Specialist Joy Tribble shared details about the upcoming Summer Sounds concerts at Plummer Park. She also noted that the Musicians and Performers open call is currently open, and that the application deadline is August 31, 2025.

Arts Coordinator Michael Che shared information about two new exhibitions at the West Hollywood Library and noted that the next Arts Division newsletter will be sent on August 1. Announced a new call to artists for a 40th Anniversary exhibition celebrating the places of West Hollywood, which will be featured in the upcoming newsletter.

Public Art Administrator Marcus Mitchell shared details about the upcoming Art in Odd Places Festival taking place July 25–27 and announced that the Art on the Outside open call for proposals is now live, with a special focus on low- to no-impact and performance-based projects. The submission deadline is August 8.

Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Dennice Oceguela Thanked Chair Moreno Freedman for her service.

**X. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

The Commission authorized staff to develop the agenda for the meeting on Thursday, August 28, 2025.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned in honor of Malcolm Jamal Warner and Ozzy Osbourne at 6:36 p.m. to its meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 28, 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 28<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2025

Signed by:

*Sigourney Gunther*

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SIGOURNEY GUNTHER  
COMMISSION CHAIR

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ATTEST:

*Dennice Ocegüera*

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DENNICE OCEGUERA,  
RECORDING SECRETARY