



City of Ann Arbor

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Ann Arbor Public Art Commission

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

7:00 PM

Electronic

This meeting will air live on CTN Channel 19, and online at a2gov.org/watchCTN. To speak at public comment, call 888-788-0099 or 877-853-5247 (Toll Free), enter Meeting ID: 932 8112 0347 and Passcode: 199831

I.) CALL TO ORDER (Mary Thiefels) (1 Minute)

II.) ROLL CALL (Christopher Cespedes) (2 Minutes)

Present city staff, speakers, and/or guests:

Christopher Cespedes (City Staff),

Chloe Crowther (Executive Director, Creative Washtenaw).

Present: 6 - Allison Buck, Peggy Wier-Leonard, Marianetta Porter, Mary Thiefels, Sarah Fuller, and Jenna Carter

Absent: 4 - Jamall Bufford, Cynthia Harrison, John Kotarski, and John Jourden

III.) CONSENT AGENDA (Mary Thiefels)(2 Minutes)

III.A.) Approval of Agenda

III.B.) Approval of Minutes

25-1887 AAPAC - Meeting Minutes: October 2025

Attachments: Meeting_Minutes_AAPAC-Oct2025.pdf

A motion was made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Carter that the Agenda and October 2025 Minutes be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

IV.) PUBLIC COMMENT - 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER (Christopher Cespedes)

25-1886 Email Correspondence - Nov 2025

Attachments: Email Correspondence - Nov2025.pdf

No members of the public spoke during the meeting.

Email correspondence received for November 2025 was included in the packet for Commissioner review.

V.) BUSINESS

V.A.) Public Art Commission – 2026 Meeting Calendar Draft (Mary Thiefels) (30 minutes)

25-1885 Public Art Commission - 2026 Meeting Calendar (Draft)

Attachments: 2026_Public Art Commission - Regular Meeting.pdf

Discussion Highlights:

- City staff presented the draft 2026 meeting schedule and confirmed that the first Wednesdays of each month did not conflict with any major holidays.

- Commissioners discussed continuing monthly meetings rather than returning to a bi-monthly model, noting that monthly sessions help maintain momentum and support working group activity.

- Commissioner Porter suggested removing the July meeting, consistent with last year's summer pause; commissioners agreed. City staff confirmed the July 1 meeting would be struck from the draft calendar.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wier-Leonard, seconded by Commissioner Fuller, to approve the 2026 Public Art Commission meeting calendar with the July 1, 2026 meeting removed.

On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

VI.) INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION

VI.A.) Community Partner Introduction – Creative Washtenaw (Chloe Crowther, Executive Director) (30 minutes)

25-2126 Community Partner Introduction - Creative Washtenaw

Attachments: 2025 AAPAC Presentation - Chloe.pdf

Discussion Highlights:

- Crowther introduced herself and provided a brief overview of Creative Washtenaw and its current programs.
- Commissioners discussed potential collaboration, including artist outreach, promotion of public art projects, and support for the Golden Paintbrush Award.
- Fiscal sponsorship and possible partnership on future initiatives were noted as areas for continued conversation.

Received and Filed

VII.) COMMUNICATIONS

VII.A.) Staff Report and Updates (Christopher Cespedes) (10 Minutes)

Discussion Highlights:

- Staff will finalize and submit the approved 2026 meeting calendar to the City Clerk.
- Commissioners noted that Chair & Vice Chair are responsible for preparing the 2025 Annual Report and will begin gathering project updates and accomplishments.
- City staff reminded commissioners of the DDA's Elevating History mural call for artists, open through November 10, and encouraged sharing through AAPAC networks.

VII.B.) Commission Member Communications (Mary Thiefels) (10 minutes)

Discussion Highlights:

- Commissioners shared upcoming holiday art markets and A2AC artist events taking place in November and December.
- A visiting artist residency and a temporary mural project opportunity were shared for commissioner awareness.
- Commissioners briefly highlighted ongoing community gallery events and openings.

VII.C.) Reports from Working Groups (Mary Thiefels) (10 minutes)

Discussion Highlights:

- *Capital Improvements: The 2026 CIP list is finalized; commissioners discussed timing for reviewing potential public art opportunities.*
- *Special Projects: Commissioner Carter joined the group; members will coordinate scheduling to begin work on the Golden Paintbrush Award process.*
- *Communications & Outreach: No new updates.*
- *Fundraising / Mini-Grant Concept: Commissioners discussed exploring third-party administrative support for a potential future mini-grant program.*

VIII. Next Agenda Items (Mary Thiefels) (3 minutes)

Discussion Highlights:

- *Staff noted that once the DDA selects an artist for the Elevating History mural project, AAPAC may invite the selected artist to present at a future meeting.*
- *DDA representatives will be invited next month to provide additional detail on the mural project and the selection process.*

IX. Adjournment (Mary Thiefels) – 2 minutes

Chair Thiefels adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

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City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
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