



City and County of San Francisco

Daniel Lurie, Mayor

Draft minutes for Visual Arts Committee, July 15, 2026



Draft Minutes

Chair Ferras called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment (0:00:04)

Commissioners Present:

Suzie Ferras, Chair

JD Beltran

Nabiel Musleh (arrived 2:03pm)

Al Perez

Debra Walker

Commissioners Absent:

Riccardo Benavides

Staff Present:

Mary Chou, Civic Art Collection & Public Art Program Director

Ebon Glenn, Deputy Director of Programs

Commissioner Ferras announced that Item 4, “San Francisco Public Utilities Commission: Treasure Island Water Resource Recovery Facility” has been tabled.

2. General Public Comment

(00:06:01)

There was no public comment.

3. Consent Calendar

(00:06:35)

Commissioner Ferras introduced all items on the consent calendar.

Commissioner Beltran, seconded by Commissioner Perez moved to approve all consent calendar items.

1. Motion to amend Resolution No. 0601-26-105 to update the loan period and contracting entity name, to now read as: Motion to approve the temporary installation of “Akua,” 2025, by Torkwase Dyson, powder-coated steel and aluminum with eight-channel sound, measuring 20 ft. x 36 ft. x 30 ft., at Civic Center Plaza, to be loaned to the Arts Commission by Public Art Fund Creative Partners LLC for a period of approximately six months commencing September 2026, with funding from the Public Art Trust at a total cost not to exceed \$350,000. The Arts Commission will be responsible for maintenance, and the artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
2. Motion to amend Resolution No. 0601-26-106 to increase the not-to-exceed amount from \$20,000 to \$25,000, with the additional \$5,000 designated to cover reimbursable expenses associated with artist travel and artwork packing and shipping update the

loan period, and update the contracting entity name, to now read as: Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a loan agreement with Public Art Fund Creative Partners LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the loan of “Akua,” 2025, by Torkwase Dyson, for a period of approximately six months commencing September 2026.

3. Motion to approve a Sole Source contract with One Hat One Hand LLC DBA Scene 2 for fine art installation services for the temporary presentation of Torkwase Dyson's “Akua” at Civic Center Plaza, pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Section 6.73, in an amount not to exceed \$334,133.75. One Hat One Hand LLC's specialized expertise in fine art fabrication and installation, proprietary knowledge of the artwork's assembly and technical requirements, and established working relationships with the original fabricator and project team make these services not reasonably available from another provider without risk of duplicative costs, schedule delays, or potential damage to the artwork.
4. Motion to approve “Tarot, The Fool”, a painted mural by Colette Amirault. The mural will be painted on a SFMTA cabinet on California Avenue and 12th Avenue. The mural measures H71 in. by W36 in. The mural will be maintained by the artist. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
5. Motion to approve “Rhythm of the Block”, a painted mural by Egypt Hagan. The mural will be painted on the street surface, along Keith Street between Armstrong Avenue and Bancroft Avenue, directly across from the Southeast Family Health Center. The mural measures H18 ft. by W40 ft. The mural will be maintained by The San Francisco African American Arts & Culture District. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art

Collection.

6. Motion to approve “Legacy”, a painted mural by Hungry Ghost Mural Productions (David Burke, Pancho Pescador, Joevic Yeban). The mural will be on the wall of the property located at 1165 Folsom Street. The mural measures H23 ft. by W28 ft. The mural is supported by a Community Challenge Grant and will be maintained by SOMA West Community Benefit District. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
7. Motion to extend the installation of “Justice” by André Renay, currently installed in the Southeast Community Center’s exterior amphitheater, previously approved under Resolution NO. 0205-24-042 by 12 months so that the total installation period is from February 2024 through February 2027. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection and will be maintained by San Francisco General Hospital Foundation.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

4. San Francisco Public Utilities Commission: Treasure Island Water Resources Recovery Facility

(00:08:53)

This item was tabled.

5. Civic Art Collection Loan Requests

(00:08:56)

Registrar Tara Peterson presented two requests to loan artworks from the Civic Art Collection for major museum exhibitions in 2027. One artwork, a woven fiber rug by Ida Dean Grae, will be loaned to the San Francisco

Museum of Modern Art for an exhibition highlighting Northern California craft, while a ceramic work by Ernie Kim will be loaned to the de Young Museum, celebrating the influence of the California School of Fine Arts (later known as San Francisco Art Institute). Ms. Peterson provided background on each artist and explained how the loans will help showcase San Francisco's Civic Art Collection to a broader audience. Ms. Peterson also highlighted that each artwork was purchased through the Arts Festival Purchase Award.

Commissioners asked where these works are stored otherwise and how the loan program works. Commissioners expressed support for sharing artworks that are otherwise in storage and appreciated the opportunity for the public to experience the City's collection through museum exhibitions. Commissioners also discussed how the public can access information about the collection and staff answered that the Arts Commission's collection is available online.

Commissioner Beltran, seconded by Commissioner Musleh moved to approve the following motions.

Motion to approve the loan of 1960.6, “Untitled”, 1960, fiber rug, by Ida Dean Grae to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art for the February 13 through November 14, 2027, exhibition “Go Your Own Way: Northern California Craft, 1945-80” in their special exhibition gallery.

Motion to approve the loan of 1961.12, “Untitled”, 1961, glazed stoneware with fiber cord, by Ernie Kim to the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco for the April 10 through October 27, 2027, exhibition “Made in San Francisco” at the de Young Museum.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Minna Natoma Art Corridor

(00:21:05)

Project Manager Arianne G. Davidian gave an overview on the overall infrastructure project and presented the final designs for the Minna Natoma Art Corridor by five artists. The project features paving designs by Barbara Stauffacher Solomon, Mel Vera Cruz, and Muzae Sesay, along with sculptural seating and bike racks by Masako Miki and Jesse Schlesinger (Joye LLC). Ms. Davidian also requested approval to increase artist contracts and allocate an additional \$50,000 from the Public Art Trust to support fabrication and installation.

Barbara Stauffacher Solomon's street paving design is inspired by Minnie Rae Simpson, a notorious resident of San Francisco during the rambunctious 1870s. The red boot motif references another, more personal era for the artist--what she called the "post-war party" culture of the late 1940s. Mel Vera Cruz's designs are an homage to Filipino culture and the Filipino diaspora in San Francisco's SOMA District. The paving designs reference Philippine textile weavings and cross-cultural symbolism, such as the sun. Muzae Sesay's design is grounded in the value of diverse communities. Through the use of a simple and charming design motif (a row of multi-colored houses), the artwork expresses the artist's strong belief that the coming together of differences—whether through ideology, culture, expression, skin color, or otherwise—provides a form of tolerance and understanding that can positively impact a community's quality of life.

Masako Miki's street furniture design features her shapeshifter series which began as an investigation of the artist's dual Japanese and American identities and later reconnected with Shinto animist traditions to articulate her evolving cultural identity. Her ten designs along Minna Street include: five bronze bollards; one large sculpture and two smaller sculptures (cast concrete with terrazzo finishes); and two bronze bike racks.

Jesse Schlesinger's street furniture designs, which are inspired by the San Francisco skyline, features nine sculptures along Natoma Street. These include: five granite pedestals; one vertical granite sculpture; and three granite horizontal sculptures.

Commissioners praised the project's scale, collaboration and City partnerships, and strong representation of local history and culture. Commissioners appreciate the variety and diversity of artists and their artwork styles. Commissioners highlighted the innovative use of repurposed materials and asked about long-term maintenance plans with the Yerba Buena Partnership, which was answered by Constance Cavallas, Deputy Director of Yerba Buena Partnership.

Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Beltran moved to approve the following motions.

- A. Motion to approve the Final Design for street surface paving by Barbara Stauffacher Solomon, Mel Vera Cruz, and Muzae Sesay for the Minna Natoma Art Corridor Public Art Project, located on Minna and Natoma Streets between Transbay and Third Street.
- B. Motion to approve the Final Design and Construction Documents for sculptural street furniture by Masako Miki for the Minna Natoma Art Corridor Public Art Project, located on Minna Street between Second and Third Streets.
- C. Motion to approve the Final Design and Construction Documents for sculptural street furniture by Joye LLC (DBA Jesse Schlesinger) for the Minna Natoma Art Corridor Public Art Project, located on Natoma Street between Second Street and SFMOMA.
- D. Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to amend contract with Masako Miki to expand scope from design-only to the design, fabrication, and consultation during installation of sculptural street furniture for the Minna Natoma Art Corridor Project and to increase the artist contract budget from \$67,514 (as authorized by Resolution No.0507-12-143) to an amount not to exceed \$409,525.
- E. Motion to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to amend contract with Joye LLC (DBA Jesse Schlesinger) to expand scope

from design-only to the design, fabrication, and consultation during installation of sculptural street furniture for the Minna Natoma Art Corridor Project and to increase the artist contract budget from \$83,854 (as authorized by Resolution No.0507-12-143) to an amount not to exceed \$205,365.

- F. Motion to amend Resolution No. 0602-25-106 to increase the Public Art Trust allocation by \$50,000, from \$375,000 to \$425,000 to contribute to the implementation of sculptural street furniture for the Minna Natoma Art Corridor Public Art Project, which is a voluntary initiative funded in large part by Public Works. This project is located within the SOMA Pilipinas Cultural Corridor.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Gene Friend Recreation Center

(01:14:24)

Project Manager Arianne G. Davidian presented the completed installation of “Barrio Fiesta” by Cece Carpio, a large integrated artwork at the new Gene Friend Recreation Center celebrating the history, culture, and community of SOMA Pilipinas. The artwork features portraits of neighborhood leaders, families, youth, elders, and community organizations and was installed with a boom lift in February of this year; a protective cover on the artwork was removed after the gym flooring was finished in March.

Ms. Davidian also shared that the recreation center is scheduled to open to the public on August 13, 2026.

Commissioners praised the vibrant artwork for honoring the Filipino community and reflecting the neighborhood's history. They appreciated the inclusion of multiple Filipino artists throughout the building and noted the project's strong community engagement and cultural significance.

Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Musleh moved to approve the following motion.

Motion to approve as-installed “Barrio Fiesta,” an integrated-wall dye-sublimated aluminum 875 square foot artwork by Cece Carpio for the Gene Friend Recreation Center Public Art Project, located at 6th and Folsom Streets in the SOMA Pilipinas Cultural District.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

8. San Francisco International Airport – Terminal 3 West Modernization Project

(01:27:11)

Senior Program Manager Amy Owen presented a proposal to relocate “Dancing on the Brink of the World” (1987) by Tony Berlant from storage to a new permanent location in the renovated Terminal 3 West “meet and greet” departures area at San Francisco International Airport. The artwork is fabricated from flattened recycled tin and features a landscape of the San Francisco Bay Area. To fit the new space, the artwork will be carefully modified by trimming one foot of the upper portions of the panels and flattening two corner panels. Ms. Owen explained that the modifications are reversible, the removed materials will be retained, and the artist supports the proposed changes. These modifications will be performed by fine arts professionals and art conservators.

Commissioners supported relocating the artwork so it can once again be viewed by the public rather than remaining in storage. Commissioners asked about the process for the relocation and adaptation of an artwork and Director of Public Art Mary Chou answered that the City Attorney advises the process based on CAPA/VARA. Commissioners asked how this work was identified and Ms. Owen answered that Senior Registrar Allison Cummings suggested that Berlant’s work could fit well in this space.

Commissioner Beltran, seconded by Commissioner Musleh moved to approve the following motion.

Motion to approve the modification of 1987.15, “Dancing on the Brink of the World”, 1987, found metal collage on wood with steel brads, by Tony Berlant as part of the San Francisco International Airport Terminal 3 West Modernization Public Art Project. The top portion of 18 panels of the artwork will be trimmed by approximately twelve inches and the two corner panels will be flattened. The modifications will be performed by a conservator and are reversable. The artist has been notified of these modifications per CAPA/VARA requirements and supports the changes to the artwork.

Motion to approve the relocation of 1987.15, “Dancing on the Brink of the World”, 1987, found metal collage on wood with steel brads, by Tony Berlant to San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 West, Departures Level, “Meet and Greet” area, Pre-Security, as part of the San Francisco International Airport Terminal 3 West Modernization Public Art Project.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

9. Staff Report

(01:41:40)

Director of Public Art Mary Chou announced several upcoming public art events and community programs taking place over the coming weeks. These included “Threaded Histories” by Ariana Martinez Cruz and “Embassy of the Refugee” by Caleb Duarte on July 25, “Sweet Route: Tribute to Paleteros” by Adrian Arias on August 2, all Shaping Legacy projects. Ms. Chou reiterated the Gene Friend Recreation Center grand opening on August 13, 2026. Staff encouraged commissioners and the public to attend these events and noted

that additional event details would be posted on the Arts Commission website.

There were no commissioner questions or comments regarding the staff report.

There was no public comment.

10. New Business and Announcements

(01:43:28)

Commissioners asked about the video artwork at 49 South Van Ness and whether it was possible to commission an additional group of artists for display. Director Chou responded that if funding is available, there is possibility of this happening.

Commissioners asked what the connection is between public and private funding and partnerships. Commissioners asked whether Director Chou could present on other examples of private/public partnerships regarding the funding of artworks for the next staff report.

Commissioners encouraged all to attend the 'Monet and Venice' exhibition at de Young Museum. Commissioners also discussed the local film scene and the merging of Arts Commission with Film Commission.

There was no public comment.

13. Adjournment

(01:51:25)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:53 pm.

Draft minutes posted 7/1/2026, x:xx pm, (pc)

Policies

Accessibility Meeting Policy

Per the American Disabilities Act and the Language Access Ordinance, Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog, and/or American Sign Language interpreters will be available upon request. Additionally, every effort will be made to provide a sound enhancement system, meeting materials in alternative formats, and/or a reader. Minutes may be translated after they have been adopted by the Commission. For all these requests, please contact Program Associates Tara Peterson & Paris Cotz at least 48 hours before the meeting at 415-252-2219 or 415-539-6213, tara.petersonl@sfgov.org or paris.cotz@sfgov.org. Late requests will be honored if possible. The meeting room is wheelchair accessible.

利便參與會議的相關規定

根據美國殘疾人士法案和語言服務條例，中文、西班牙語、和/或美國手語翻譯人員在收到要求後將會提供翻譯服務。另外，我們將盡力提供擴音設備。同時也將會提供不同格式的會議資料，和/或者提供閱讀器。此外，翻譯版本的會議記錄可在委員會通過後提供。上述的要求，請於會議前最少48小時致電415-252-2219向 Tara Peterson, tara.petersonl@sfgov.org 提出。逾期提出的請求，若可能的話，亦會被考慮接納。聽證室設有輪椅通道。

POLITICA DE ACCESO A LA REUNIÓN

De acuerdo con la Ley sobre Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (American Disabilities Act) y la Ordenanza de Acceso a Idiomas (Language Access Ordinance) intérpretes de chino, español, y lenguaje de señas estarán disponibles de ser requeridos. En adición, se hará todo el esfuerzo posible para proveer un sistema mejoramiento de sonido, materiales de la reunión en formatos alternativos, y/o proveer un leedor. Las minutas podrán ser traducidas luego de ser aprobadas por la Comisión. Para solicitar estos servicios, favor contactar a Tara Peterson l, por lo menos 48 horas antes de la reunión al 415-252-2219, tara.peterson@sfgov.org. Las

solicitudes tardías serán consideradas de ser posible. La sala de audiencia es accesible a silla de ruedas.

Patakaran para sa pag-access ng mga Miting

Ayon sa batas ng American Disabilities Act at ng Language Access

Ordinance, maaring mag-request ng mga tagapagsalin wika sa salitang Tsino, Espanyol at/o sa may kapansanan pandinig sa American Sign

Language. Bukod pa dito, sisikapin gawan ng paraan na makapaglaan ng gamit upang lalong pabutihin ang inyong pakikinig, maibahagi ang mga kaganapan ng miting sa iba't ibang anyo, at/o isang tagapagbasa.

Ang mga kaganapan ng miting ay maaring isalin sa ibang wika matapos ito ay aprobahan ng komisyon.

Sa mga ganitong uri ng kahilingan, mangyari po lamang makipag ugnayan kay Tara Peterson sa 415-252-

2219, tara.peterson@sfgov.org. Magbigay po lamang ng hindi bababa sa 48 oras na abiso bago ng miting. Kung maari, ang mga late na hiling ay posibleng tanggapin. Ang silid ng pagpupulungan ay accessible sa mga naka wheelchair.

Agenda Item Information/Materials Available

Each item on the agenda may include the following documents:

- 1) Department or Agency or report;
- 2) Public correspondence;
- 3) Other explanatory documents.

Explanatory documents listed above, as well as documents created or distributed after the posting of this agenda to the Arts Commission will be available only electronically, please contact: Program Associate Tara Peterson at tara.peterson@sfgov.org or 415-252-2219 or Program Associate Paris Cotz at paris.cotz@sfgov.org or 415-539-6213. PLEASE NOTE: The Arts Commission often receives documents created or submitted by other City officials, agencies or departments after the posting of the Arts Commission

agenda. For such documents or presentations, members of the public may wish to contact the originating agency if they seek documents not yet provided to the Arts Commission.

Archives Available

A recording of this meeting will be available online, 48 hours after the meeting.

Cell Phone Or other Electronic Device Use at Hearings

Please silence all cell phones, pagers, and other sound-producing devices before the meeting begins.

If a device does go off during the meeting, please note that the Chair or President may ask the person responsible to step out of the room.

Disability Access

To obtain a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the meeting, please contact Tara Peterson at tara.peterson@sfgov.org or 415-252-2219, at least 48 hours before the meeting, except for Monday meetings, for which the deadline is 4:00 p.m. the previous Friday.

- Wheelchair accessible entrance is at Van Ness Avenue and Grove Street.
- There are elevators and accessible restrooms located on every floor.

Lobbyist Ordinance

Individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance (San Francisco Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code sections 2.100-2.160) to register and report lobbying activity.

For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, contact the [Ethics Commission](#).

- 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 220, San Francisco, CA 94102

- (415) 252-3100
- Ethics.Commission@sfgov.org

Meeting Procedures

1. Agenda items will normally be heard in order. Please note, that on occasion a special circumstance may necessitate that an agenda item be taken out of order. To ensure that an agenda item is not missed, it is advised to arrive at the beginning of the meeting. All agenda changes will be announced by the Chair at the top of the meeting.

2. Public comment will be taken before or during the Committee's consideration of each agenda item. Each speaker will be allowed to speak for the time allotted by the Chair at the top of the meeting or up to three (3) minutes.

3. During General Public Comment, members of the public may address the Commissioners on matters that are within the Arts Commission's jurisdiction and are not on the agenda.

4. Persons who spoke during the public comment period at a meeting of the Arts Commission may supply a brief written summary of the comments to be included in the minutes if it is 150 words or less. The Arts Commission may reject the summary if it exceeds the prescribed word limit or is not an accurate summary of the speaker's public comment.

5. Persons unable to attend an Arts Commission meeting may submit correspondence to the Arts Commission in connection with an agenda item. The Commission Secretary will post these documents adjacent to the agenda if they are one page in length. If they are longer than one page, the Arts Commission will make such documents available for public inspection and copying. Please note, correspondence submitted to the Arts Commission will NOT be read aloud during the meeting. Names and

addresses included in these submittals will be public. Submittals may be made anonymously. Written comments pertaining to this meeting should be submitted to art-info@sfgov.org.

Public Comment

Public comment in regard to specific agenda items will be taken before or during consideration of the item. Each speaker may speak for up to three minutes per agenda item, unless the Chair has announced a different length of time at the beginning of the meeting. Speakers may not transfer their time to another person. Any person speaking during a public comment period may supply a written summary of their comments to be included in the minutes if it is 150 words or less.

NOTE: The San Francisco Arts Commission is discontinuing remote public comment for all public meetings starting in December 2023. Public comment will be taken in-person, with remote access provided for those who require an ADA accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be made at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 97.7. Late requests will be honored if possible. Please reach out to art-info@sfgov.org or by calling 415-252-2255 with any questions or to make an accommodation request

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Sunshine Ordinance

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decision in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and

County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review.

Citizens interested in obtaining a free copy of the Sunshine Ordinance can request a copy from by printing Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code on the Internet, <http://www.sfgov.org/sunshine/>

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- 1 Dr. Carlton b. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102
- (415) 554-7724
- By fax at 415-554 7854
- sotf@sfgov.org