



## **MEETING OF THE FULL ARTS COMMISSION**

**Monday, June 2, 2025**

**2 p.m.**

**Hybrid Meeting**

### **Draft Minutes**

President Collins called the meeting to order at **2:01 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment  
(0:20)**

#### **Commissioners Present**

Charles Collins, President (*left meeting at 3:37, Vice President Shiota took over as chair at this time*)

Janine Shiota, Vice President

Patrick Carney

Seth Brenzel

Debra Walker

JD Beltran

Mahsa Hakimi

Suzie Ferras

Marcus Shelby

Nabiel Musleh

Jessica Rothschild

#### **Commissioners Absent**

J. Riccardo Benavides

Yiying Lu

Lydia So, ex officio

#### **Staff Present:**

Ralph Remington, Director of Cultural Affairs

Ebon Glenn, Deputy Director of Programs

Sarah Hollenbeck, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration



Alyssa Ventra, Chief of Staff  
Manraj Dhaliwal, Commission Secretary

President Collins announced an agenda change, shifting item 6, The Strategic Planning presentation, to item 2. No other agenda changes were made.

President Collins announced the public meeting instructions.

Commission Secretary Dhaliwal announced public comment instructions.

President Collins began the meeting by reading the Arts Commission's land acknowledgment statement.

## **2. Strategic Plan Update (7:25)**

Bill Blake and Lauren Frankel from AMS Planning and Research presented an update on the strategic plan. Blake mentioned the planning process including five phases, with the current focus on envisioning the future. Blake and Frankel highlighted the importance of community engagement, data collection, and the need for a collaborative approach to achieve the strategic goals.

President Collins emphasized the importance of the strategic plan in guiding the future of the San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC) and ensuring that it aligns with the needs and priorities of the community. Remington mentioned the collaborative efforts with Grants for the Arts and the Film Commission, emphasizing that all three entities are now considered clients in the process of the strategic plan.

Ned Segal, Chief of Housing and Economic Development, emphasized the importance of collaboration and learning among different departments to improve the delivery of services and support to the arts and cultural community. He clarified that the intent of the consolidation is to deliver better outcomes, not just to save money, and stressed the need for clear communication and transparency throughout the process. Segal also highlighted the central role of arts and culture in the city's economy and the importance of having a clear guiding principle for the strategic plan.

Commissioners expressed appreciation for the strategic planning effort and emphasized the importance of transparency, community engagement, and collaboration.

#### Public Comments

Criss Romero, the Executive Director of the Municipal Executives Association, expressed concerns about the transparency and communication of the consolidation process. Romero emphasized the importance of including labor unions in the discussions, as they represent department heads and managers who will be affected by the changes. Romero also highlighted the need for impact bargaining to understand the effects on employees and ensure that labor unions are part of the city's culture and arts support.

Deborah Slater, representing Deborah Slater Dance Theater, raised concerns about the lack of transparency and understanding of the consolidation process among artists. Slater questioned what the new structure would look like, how decisions would be made, and how funds would be distributed. Slater emphasized the need for artists to be included in the conversation and addressed critical issues related to grant cycles and organizational support. Slater also expressed interest in being a dance representative on the Commission.

There was no additional public comment.

### **3.Approval of the Minutes (56:35)**

Commissioner Brenzel, seconded by Commissioner Musleh moved to approve April 7, 2025, and May 5, 2025, minutes.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-081:** Motion to approve the April 7, 2025, Full Commission minutes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-082:** Motion to approve the May 5, 2025, Full Commission minutes.

**4. General Public Comment**  
**(57:42)**

There was no public comment.

**6. Director's Report**  
**(58:25)**

Director Remington shared recent events he attended. On April 10th, Remington spoke at the unveiling of the temporary installation "Our Evolution" by artist Marco Cochrane at Embarcadero Plaza, with Commissioner Walker and Director Phil Ginsburg from Rec Park also in attendance. On the same day, he attended the unveiling of the "Dreamers of Dream" mural honoring arts educators in SF public schools on Woodside Avenue. From April 18th to 20th, Remington attended the San Francisco Art Fair at Fort Mason and participated in a meet and greet panel with Lydia Hale and Paul Henderson on April 19th. From April 22nd to 25th, he attended a Race Forward board meeting in Montgomery, Alabama, visiting local museums and historical sites, including the Legacy Museum and the Lynching Memorial. On April 26th, he attended the Shipyard Open Studios at Hunters Point Shipyard. On May 1st, Remington attended the 21st annual API Heritage Awards at Herbst Theatre and the reception at City Hall. On May 3rd, he participated in a special discussion panel with San Francisco Ballet and their Executive Director Branislav Heinselman, organized by Black XSF. On May 7th, he attended a cultural leader's dinner at Grace Cathedral to discuss the role of culture in supporting San Francisco's revitalization. On May 10th, Remington attended and spoke at the 25th annual Yerba Buena Gardens Festival to commemorate the opening of the 2025 season. On May 12th, he attended the SF Nightlife and Entertainment Summit, where SFAC staff tabled at the citywide resource fair. On May 28th, he attended the opening of the inaugural Creative Land Trust Summit. On May 29th, Remington attended a public reception to celebrate the opening of the new exhibition "Service Attention" at the SFAC Main Gallery. Finally, on May 31st and June 1st, he attended the 11th annual Bay Area Book Festival.

Remington provided updates on upcoming events, including the 30th annual Pink Triangle installation and new exhibitions at the SFAC Main Gallery and City Hall. He highlighted recent public art projects, such as the completion of the Potrero Gateway Project, the restoration of "Invocation" by Pepe Ozan, and the release of the Shaping Legacy Audit Report. Additionally, he noted that the San Francisco International Airport was recognized as one of the top 10 best airports in the world for 2025, with over 277 works commissioned and acquired as part of the airport's public art collection. Remington also thanked commissioners and staff for their participation in the strategic planning retreat and welcomed the new staff member Jax Blaska to the Community Investments team.

## **7. Committee Reports and Committee Matters (1:12:48)**

### **1.1 Civic Design Committee Report (1:13:00)**

Chair Walker described approved projects at San Francisco Airport, including the Westfield Campus Cargo Building and the Recycled Water System Project. She said the committee reviewed the design, materials, and sustainability goals of these projects and provided feedback to the project teams.

There is no public comment.

### **2.1 Visual Arts Committee Report (1:18:11)**

Chair Ferras presented the approved completed artwork "Metamorphosis" by Future Forms and the project plan for the San Francisco Fire Department Division of Training Public Art Project. She said the goals of the project include connecting viewers to the facility's functions, integrating the facility into the neighborhood, and using durable materials.

There was no public comment

### **3.1 Community Investment Committee Report (1:23:46)**

Chair Shiota shared the recommended approval for the fiscal year 25 Cultural Equity Grant Program, which included Artist Legacy, Cultural Equity Initiatives, and San Francisco Artist Grants. She mentioned recommended approval for the fiscal year Arts Impact Endowments funds, which include Sustaining Ongoing Initiatives, Resilience and Growth, and New Creative Opportunities.

There was no public comment

### **4.1 Executive Committee Report (1:32:12)**

Chair Collins shared that Director Remington provided updates on recent events, upcoming events, gallery updates, public art updates, and HR updates. He mentioned the committee reviewed and approved motions for the proposed fiscal 2026 Cultural Centers grants to maintain cultural vibrancy and accessibility, as well as an amendment to increase the allocation for the Minna Natoma Art Corridor project.

## **7. Shaping Legacy Update (1:34:27)**

Senior Program Manager Angela Carrier presented on the Shaping Legacy project, which included details relating to community engagement, the audit report, and temporary public art projects. Commissioners acknowledged the comprehensive nature of the report and its recommendations.

## **8. SFAC Galleries Fall 2025 Exhibition (1:46:11)**

Director of Galleries and Public Programs Carolina Aranibar-Fernandez and Associate Curator Jackie Im presented on the upcoming exhibition "Too Bright Disturbances." Im shared that the exhibition explores land use

and its impact on society through the works of various artists. Im noted the exhibition brings unique perspectives on themes of activism, adaptation, and the demands placed on nature.

## **9. Consent Calendar (1:51:32)**

Vice President Shiota introduced all items on the consent calendar with the exception of subitem 16.

Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Beltran moved to approve all consent calendar items with the exception of subitem 16.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Vice President Shiota introduced subitem 16 on the consent calendar. Commissioner Beltran recused herself due to a conflict of interests. Her residence is located less than 1,000 feet from the project sit in question.

Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel moved to approve subitem 16 on the consent calendar.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Beltran returned to the meeting.

**RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-083:** that this Commission does hereby adopt the following items on the Consent Calendar and their related Resolutions:

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-084:** Motion to approve the May 19, 2025, [Civic Design Review Committee Meeting Minutes.](#)



2. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-085:** Motion to approve the April 22, 2025, [Community Investments Committee Meeting Minutes](#).
3. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-086:** Motion to approve the May 21, 2025, [Visual Arts Committee Meeting Minutes](#).
4. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-087:** Motion to approve the May 28, 2025, [Executive Committee Meeting Minutes](#).

**Civic Design Review Committee Recommendations (May 19, 2025, [link to agenda](#))**

5. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-088:** Motion to approve Phase 1 Review for SFO West Field Campus: Cargo Building 626.1
6. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-089:** Motion to approve Phase 2 Review for SFO West Field Campus: Cargo Building 720.1 and 742
7. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-090:** Motion to approve Phase 2 & 3 Review SFO Recycled Water System Project - Control Room / Process Building

**Visual Arts Committee Recommendations (May 21, 2025, [link to agenda](#))**

8. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-091:** Motion to approve *Art for Everyone: Beautifying San Francisco Through Community Art Displays*, a series of paintings by Janet Kai and Elizabeth Libao Francisco. The works will be installed at the SFMTA Parking Garage at 735 Vallejo Street and will be on display for up to one year. The display area is 9 ft. by 18 ft. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection and the artists will be responsible for the maintenance of the work.
9. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-092:** Motion to amend RESOLUTION NO. 1202-24-493 to extend the installation of *Heartfulness* by Katy Boynton, by six months. The work will be installed until December 7, 2025.
10. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-093:** Motion to approve the relocation of *Dancing in the Sea of Milk* and *African King with Animal Power*, 1995



two sculptures by Martha Heavenston in the Civic Art Collection (Accession #1995.8.1-2) within the playground at Tenderloin Recreation Center, pending the completion of a feasibility and cost analysis.

11. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-094:** Motion to approve the temporary installation of six sculptures *Traces in Order to Remember*, 2024, by Betsabee Romero. The works are fabricated from repurposed tires, paint, mirrors and metal with wooden bases. The sculptures will be installed along JFK Promenade in Golden Gate Park, between Conservatory Drive East and West, from June 3, 2024 – March 2026. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection and will be maintained by the Recreation and Park Department, with Illuminate the Arts.
12. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-095:** Motion to approve the temporary installation of a *Solar Arch*, 2024 by Fnnch. The sculpture is fabricated from stainless steel, aluminum, acrylic, and LED lighting and will be installed along JFK Promenade in Golden Gate Park, at the intersection of JFK Promenade and Conservatory Drive East from June 1, 2025 – June 2026. It will be maintained by the Recreation and Park Department, with Illuminate the Arts. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
13. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-096:** Motion for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve the artist honorarium in the amount of \$4000 to Kija Lucas; \$4000 to Aspen Mays; \$3200 to Carmen Argote; and \$800 to Sky Hopinka for the research and development of artwork for *To Bright Disturbances* on view at the SFAC Main Gallery, September 25 – December 13, 2025.
14. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-097:** Motion to approve Colin Choy Kimzey, Amir Khadar, Vida Kuang, Thad Higa, Patricia Wakida, and Adrian Arias as finalists for the 2026 Art on Market Poster Series, as recommended by the Artist Review Panel.
15. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-098:** Motion to approve the Project Plan for the San Francisco Fire Department Division of Training public art project.

16. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-099:** Motion to approve as installed the completed artwork titled *Metamorphosis* by Futureforms (Nataly Gattegno and Jason Kelly Johnson) located at Potrero Gateway on 17th St. at San Bruno Avenue and 17<sup>th</sup> St. Vermont Street. The artwork is composed of four sculptures made of stainless steel and range in size from 10 ft. 2 in. tall by 3 ft. 6 in. wide to 7 ft. 3 in. tall by 5 ft. 1 in. wide. The work will be maintained by Public Works, Dogpatch and Northwest Potrero Hill Green Benefit District and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

**Executive Committee Recommendations (May 28, 2025, [link to agenda](#))**

17. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-100:** Motion to approve the Cultural Center fiscal year 2025-2026 grant amount not to exceed \$699,612, to the African American Art and Culture Complex (AAACC) that includes \$8,881 of Cost of Doing Business funds that are pending confirmation; to support the operation, maintenance, and programming of this City-owned community cultural center and to ensure that this cultural center remains open, accessible and a vital contributor to the cultural life of the City; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a total grant agreement not to exceed \$699,612 at this time.
18. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-101:** Motion to approve the Cultural Center fiscal year 2025-2026 grant amount not to exceed \$422,396 to the Bayview Opera House (BVOH, also known as Ruth Williams Opera House) to support the operation, maintenance, and programming of this City-owned community cultural center and to ensure that this cultural center remains open, accessible and a vital contributor to the cultural life of the City; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a total grant agreement not to exceed \$422,396 at this time.
19. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-102:** Motion to approve the Cultural Center fiscal year 2025-2026 grant amount not to exceed \$682,233 to the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts (MCCLA) to support the

operation, maintenance, and programming of this City-owned community cultural center and to ensure that this cultural center remains open, accessible and a vital contributor to the cultural life of the City; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a total grant agreement not to exceed \$682,233 at this time.

20. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-103:** Motion to approve the Cultural Center fiscal year 2025-2026 grant amount not to exceed \$777,184 to SOMArts to support the operation, maintenance, and programming of this City-owned community cultural center and to ensure that this cultural center remains open, accessible and a vital contributor to the cultural life of the City; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a total grant agreement not to exceed \$777,184 at this time.
21. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-104:** Motion to approve the Cultural Center fiscal year 2025-2026 grant amount not to exceed \$134,692 to SOMArts with sub-grantee Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center (APICC) to support the operation and programming of this virtual cultural center and to ensure that this cultural center remains a vital contributor to the cultural life of the City; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant agreement not to exceed \$134,692 at this time.
22. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-105:** Motion to approve the Cultural Center fiscal year 2025-2026 grant amount not to exceed \$134,692 to SOMArts with sub-grantee QCC-The Center for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Art & Culture (QCC) to support the operation and programming of this virtual cultural center and to ensure that this cultural center remains a vital contributor to the cultural life of the City; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant agreement not to exceed \$134,692 at this time.
23. **RESOLUTION NO. 0602-25-106:** Motion to action to amend Resolution No. 0207-22-033 to increase the allocation by \$75,000, from \$300,000 to \$375,000, so that the updated resolution reads:

Motion to approve an allocation of \$375,000 from the Public Art Trust to contribute to the implementation of sculptural street furniture for the Minna Natoma Art Corridor, which is a voluntary initiative funded in large part by Public Works, that integrates the work of artists into the street infrastructure with artist designed paving and sculptural street furniture on Minna and Natoma Streets between Transbay and Third Street along Minna and between Transbay and SFMOMA along Natoma. This project is located within the SOMA Pilipinas Cultural Corridor.

## **10. New Business and Announcements**

**(1:55:00)**

Commissioner Ferras announced the "Skate" exhibition at 111 Minna Gallery, which features over 100 artists. Commissioner Beltran shared their experience attending the Asian Art Museum and highlighted the current exhibition featuring new young API artists. Beltran was impressed by the "Everyday War" installation by artist Guan Min, which was originally created for the Venice Biennale and has been reinstalled. Commissioner Hakimi expressed gratitude for the inclusion of Middle Eastern artists in the data presented during the meeting.

There was no public comment.

## **11. In Memoriam**

**(1:59:18)**

The Commission honored individuals who have made an impact on San Francisco's arts and culture landscape and have recently passed away, including Mark Izu, Zakir Hussain, Fred Eversley, Scott Nelson, Alan Wayne Martinez, and Pete Doolittle.

There was no public comment.

## **12. Adjournment**

**(2:05:17)**



There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Posted 06/11/2025, 1:12 p.m., MD

### **Archives Available**

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[https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=147](https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=147).

### **Language Accessibility**

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