



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE ARTS COMMISSION

**Wednesday, September 24, 2025
1 p.m.
City Hall, Room 408**

Draft Minutes

President Collins called the meeting to order at **1:01** p.m.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment (0:17)

Commissioners Present

Charles Collins, President
Marcus Shelby
Janine Shiota, Vice President

Commissioners Absent

JD Beltran
Debra Walker

Staff Present:

Ralph Remington, Director of Cultural Affairs
Ebon Glenn, Deputy Director of Programs
Sarah Hollenbeck, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration
Manraj Dhaliwal, Commission Secretary
Veronica Limcaco, Acting Chief of Staff

President Collins asked for any agenda changes and no changes were suggested.

President Collins announced the public meeting instructions.

Commission Secretary Dhaliwal announced public comment instructions.



Commissioner Walker began the meeting by reading the Arts Commission's land acknowledgment statement.

2. General Public Comment (7:30)

There was no public comment.

3. Director's Report (8:20)

Director of Cultural Affairs Ralph Remington reported on key program updates and recent events. In celebration of Latino Heritage Month, the Arts Commission launched a social media campaign honoring artists Juana Alicia and Emmanuel Montoya, with forthcoming profiles tied to the opening of the new Mission Library. He noted the swearing-in of new commissioners Al Perez and McKenna Quint on September 17, 2025, and highlighted several major events including the ribbon cutting for Cityside Park on Treasure Island featuring Ned Kahn's *Canopy of the Sky*, the Civic Center Empire Records anniversary concert, Chinatown's Edge on the Square art festival, and the SF Symphony's opening night gala.

Remington also shared updates on new grant opportunities, upcoming community engagement events in the Fillmore/Western Addition, and the opening of the Too Bright Disturbances exhibition at the SFAC Main Gallery. He concluded with news of the upcoming SFPUC Southeast Treatment Plant ribbon cutting on September 30, featuring a new permanent artwork by Nori Saito.

There was no public comment.

4. Public Art Trust – Artwork in Filipino Cultural Heritage District (15:13)

Mary Chou, Civic Art Collection and Public Art Program Director, presented the item, explaining that the project aligns with cultural strategies in the

SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS report, recommendations from the Monuments and Memorials Committee, and findings from the Shaping Legacy Audit. Chou noted that the district currently lacks a permanent cultural marker and that this project would be developed with strong community input, drawing lessons from past initiatives.

Commissioners discussed the funding source, confirming that while restricted to the C-3 district and nearby areas, the funds were appropriately designated for this project.

Public Comment

Raquel Redondiez, Director of SOMA Pilipinas, expressed strong support for the project, noting it is long overdue for San Francisco's Filipino community, which has been present in the City for over 120 years. Redondiez emphasized that existing monuments often highlight colonization instead of Filipino resilience. Redondiez highlighted the group's work with the Arts Commission on murals and public art.

Christine Abiba, arts administrator with SOMA Pilipinas, supported the proposal and shared that community members feel Filipino history is often misrepresented. Abiba stressed the need for monuments that preserve accurate histories and provide spaces for gathering and reflection. Abiba also invited commissioners to view the current *Michi Bauta Living Legacy* exhibition showcasing decades of Filipino community organizing.

Commissioner Shiota, seconded by Commissioner Shelby moved to approve an allocation of up to \$550,000 from the Public Art Trust's Undesignated Funds to commission a new permanent artwork celebrating Filipino culture and identity in the Filipino Cultural Heritage District.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to approve an allocation of up to \$550,000 from the Public Art Trust's Undesignated Funds to commission a new permanent artwork celebrating Filipino culture and identity in the Filipino Cultural Heritage

District.

5. New Business and Announcements (28:28)

No new business and announcements were brought forward.

There was no public comment.

6. Adjournment (28:39)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

Posted 10/01/2025, 2:30 p.m., MD

Archives Available

A recording of this meeting will be available online after the meeting at the following address:

<https://www.sf.gov/meeting/march-27-2024/executive-committee-meeting>

Language Accessibility

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