

APPROVED
MINUTES OF
THE VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
HELD IN THE COMMISSIONS ROOM
OF THE VILLAGE HALL
AUGUST 6, 2025 AT 6:30 P.M.

Arts Chair Seitz-Pagano called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mary Seitz-Pagano, Arts Chair
Kristen Walter
Erika Cutlip
Brian Wolf
Leena Joshi
Carla McAleer
Kate Schwarz

Members Absent: Gretchen Grassl

Also Present: Derek Mach, Staff Liaison

Arts Chair Seitz-Pagano led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COMMISSIONER WALTER MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WOLF, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES WITH REVISIONS FROM THE JUNE 18, 2025 ARTS COMMISSION MEETING. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

DOWNTOWN PUBLIC ART PLAN

Commissioner Walter explained that she worked with Commissioner Grassl as part of a subcommittee regarding a draft budget and potential funding options for the art plan. The Commission discussed grants, fundraising, donations, in kind services and the Village as potential funding options. Arts Chair Seitz-Pagano asked about charging ticket prices for various Arts Commission programs in order to generate money for public art. Staff Liaison Derek Mach commented that staff would need to discuss and explained that the Village is not setup like the Park District where it could efficiently collect small fees for a program. The Commission inquired if the Village can accept a donation for artwork. Staff Liaison Derek Mach commented that if an entity came forward with a donation that it would most likely be up to the Village Board to consider.

The Commission discussed that the art plan will be utilized to help obtain a grant. Commissioner McAleer commented that more detailed estimates will be needed for pursuing grants and that funding sources would have to be secured. The Commission discussed the possibility of repurposing areas or structures for art such as the Vail Avenue parking garage. Commissioner Walter suggested that the proposed costs, RFP, plan and timeline be finalized and incorporated into the draft plan. Commissioner Walter and staff are going to coordinate regarding a detailed draft of the art plan.

The Commission discussed narrowing down the potential art locations. The Commission discussed the following locations as primary options for public art:

- Vail Garage
- Northwest Highway retaining wall
- North Parking Garage

The Commission thanked Commissioner Walter and Grassl for their work on the budget portion of the art plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Arts Chair Seitz-Pagano asked if there is any new business? The Commission discussed meeting on Wednesday, October 1, 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Mickey Mantas shared her enthusiasm for the art plan. Ms. Mantas commented on the importance that the artwork reflect Arlington Heights. Ms. Janet McCarthy introduced herself and explained that she is the founder and president of Glen's Friends. Ms. McCarthy shared her support for a mural and commented that Glen's Friends would be interested in being part of a future art piece/project. Ms. Sarah Altieri introduced herself and offered her support with the plan and program. Ms. Altieri shared her enthusiasm regarding the Arts Commission and the art plan.

Arts Chair Seitz-Pagano thanked everyone for their comments.

ADJOURNMENT

COMMISSIONER WOLF MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JOSHI TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:35 P.M. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.