



AGENDA  
ARTS COMMISSION  
Commissions Room, 2nd Floor  
Arlington Heights Village Hall, 33 S. Arlington Heights Rd.  
Arlington Heights IL 60005  
September 2, 2026  
6:30 PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - A. August 5, 2026 Minutes
- IV. REPORTS
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Cultural Arts Award
  - B. Downtown Public Art Plan
  - C. Mural Ordinance
  - D. Sidewalk Chalk Art
  - E. Artwork at Metropolis
  - F. Luminary Event
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
- VII. OTHER BUSINESS
- VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to speak on a subject not on the Agenda may speak at this time. Please limit your comments to three minutes.

- IX. ADJOURNMENT

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**MINUTES OF  
THE VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
ARTS COMMISSION  
COMMISSIONS ROOM (2nd FLOOR)  
OF THE VILLAGE HALL  
August 5, 2026 AT 6:30 P.M.**

Members Present: Mary Seitz-Pagano, Arts Chair  
Kristen Walter  
Leena Joshi  
Brian Wolf  
Henry Beardsley  
Kate Schwarz  
Carla McAleer  
Sara Altieri

Members Absent: Erika Cutlip

Also Present: Michael Lysicatos, Planning and Community Development  
Conor Rockhill, Planning and Community Development  
Basmah Nadeem, Planning and Community Development

Arts Chair Seitz-Pagano opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**COMMISSIONER JOSHI MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY, 6 2026 ARTS COMMISSION MEETING. ALL WERE IN FAVOR, COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY ABSTAINED. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Staff Liasson Lysicatos introduced Conor Rockhill and Basmah Nadeem from the Planning and Community Development staff who would be assisting with future Arts Commission meetings and efforts, including the Public Art Plan. Staff Liasson Lysicatos then introduced the newest Arts Commissioner, Henry Beardsley, who provided his background to the Commission.

**CULTURAL ARTS AWARD**

Chair Seitz-Pagano opened the discussion on the Cultural Arts Award. Staff suggested that the solicitation for the award be reposted to social media. The Commission recommended a late August post after school has started.

**DOWNTOWN PUBLIC ART PLAN**

Staff Liasson Lysicatos provided that staff was working to develop a structure of topics and a schedule for the plan to potentially be completed next spring. The Village Board is looking for the Art Plan before programming future funding. The plan will serve as the communication tool to identify and coordinate on priorities between the Arts Commission and Village Board. The Commission discussed the prospect of developing themes and implementation timing that would be presented to the Village Board for support of future projects and funding opportunities.

**MURAL ORDINANCE**

The Staff Liaison provided an overview of the Draft Art Mural Ordinance and some of the changes made since the last draft was distributed to the Arts Commission. The definition of an Art Mural was a specific point of emphasis to differentiate potential projects from commercial or even political messaging. The ordinance guidelines were reinforced to facilitate projects that were easily reviewed and avoid issues identified by the Arts Commission and ordinances from

other areas. The ordinance focuses on non-residential districts to test what projects are submitted and potentially may be modified going forward. The guidelines also address historic strictures, light-based ordinances, paying owners strictly for the use of buildings for mural space, and acknowledgment panels.

The Visual Rights Act considerations were moved to the application and review process section of the ordinance along with requirements for a maintenance plan, public notice, and mechanism for the Arts Commission meetings to serve as a hearing for proposed projects. Design review would be handled through an administrative review by Village Staff that would include previous architectural considerations by the Design Commission. This section also addresses the Arts Commission's role as a recommending body to the Village Board and the permitting and maintenance requirements for any approved projects.

The Commissioners expressed some concerns about the amount and detail of the application requirements, such as the detailed, color, scaled rendering and plat of survey. Staff explained that these requirements were developed in order to provide clarity in regards to impacts on property boundaries and building conditions. Furthermore, these elements will provide understanding of how the mural would look on the building and potential impact architectural elements of the façade that could have been the subject of previous architectural reviews. Any requirements that may become a burden could be amended or removed in the future. The requirements will also assist with the permitting and inspection of projects to ensure they are implemented as proposed. Staff explained that the goal of the submission requirements is to address as many issues as possible before an application is heard by the Arts Commission in the hope of having applicants to the Arts Commission within a month once a complete application is submitted. Additionally, the requirements and research needed before applying help ensure that the mural application is successful, has longevity, and attracts experienced artists who are accustomed to the type of process and requirements as outlined in the draft ordinance.

Initial submissions or interest can be vetted by Village Staff, but the Arts Commission could provide assistance with the process as well. The ordinance merely outlines the requirements for implementing an Art Mural. An application package can be created, much like other Village application processes, to provide examples and checklists to assist with the process. The Arts Commission suggested videos that could also assist with application guidance. The Arts Commission can also use the Public Art Plan as a way to identify priority projects/locations and serve as an avenue to match artists with property owners while the Mural Art Ordinance is the pathway for allowing the projects.

**COMMISSIONER WALTER MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WOLF, TO RECOMMEND TO THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE, INCORPORATING THE ART MURAL ORDINANCE AS SET FORTH IN THE AGENDA FOR TONIGHT'S ARTS COMMISSION MEETING. ALL WERE IN FAVOR.**

### **SIDEWALK CHALK ART**

Commissioner Joshi provided a recap of the discussion from the last Arts Commission meeting including the name for the event, coordination with downtown businesses, and "canvas" sizes of 4'x4' and 6'x6' to be provided. The project budget was discussed with staff providing that there is \$10,000 in approved funding for this year and proposed for 2027.

### **ARTWORK AT METROPOLIS**

Chair Seitz-Pagano informed the Commission that the project is approved to move forward and asked that anyone that is interested and has time, to visit the space as a group. Some of the concepts for the art were discussed and they would be involved in a volunteer capacity with this effort. The Village would be provided an update on the status in order to ensure any departments that need to be involved are made aware of the status.

### **LUMINARY EVENT**

Staff Liasson Lysicatos opened the discussion by providing a recap from the last meeting where the Arts Commission asked this topic to be added to the agenda. A luminary event would be an ideal topic developed through the discussion of arts events in the Public Art Plan.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Staff Liasson Lysicatos presented the draft 2027 Arts Commission budget which is \$1,000 for the Cultural Arts Award and \$10,000 for the Arts Commission events. The budget was circulated with the agenda.

**COMMISSIONER MCALEER MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WOLF, TO APPROVE THE 2027 ARTS COMMISSION BUDGET. ALL WERE IN FAVOR.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was no public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**COMMISSIONER WALTER MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ALTIERI TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:09 PM. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.**



VILLAGE OF  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
— INC. 1887 —

**9/2/2026**

**Item:** Cultural Arts Award

**Department:** Planning & Community Development

**Item Description:**

There are no updates from staff as this time regarding the Cultural Arts Award.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None



**9/2/2026**

**Item:** Downtown Public Art Plan

**Department:** Planning & Community Development

**Item Description:**

The Village Board identified eight Strategic Priorities for 2026–2027, one of which is to support and enhance the Village's efforts related to the arts, entertainment, and community identity. The 2026-2027 Arlington Heights Business Plan calls for the Village Staff to work with the Arts Commission to develop a Public Art Plan. The Public Art Plan will expand upon the Commission's previous focus on Downtown Public Art. The Public Art Plan will promote public art that supports a vibrant and healthy community, fosters a sense of belonging, and cultural advancement within the Village. Some of the milestones include developing the outline and scope of the plan and the public input process by the end of the year. Village Staff will present a proposed scope and outline for the final plan along with key elements of the first phase of work to develop a Community Arts Profile. The goal of the presentation is to reengage the Arts Commission on this Village-wide initiative, provide plans from other cities and regions to serve as inspiration, and organize roles for each of the Arts Commission members.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None



VILLAGE OF  
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**9/2/2026**

**Item:** Mural Ordinance

**Department:** Planning & Community Development

**Item Description:**

Staff is preparing a presentation for the September 8, 2026, Village Board meeting which will provide an overview of the Draft Mural Ordinance recommended by the Arts Commission for approval at the August meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None



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**9/2/2026**

**Item:** Sidewalk Chalk Art

**Department:** Planning & Community Development

**Item Description:**

There are no updates from staff as this time regarding the Sidewalk Chalk Art.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None



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— INC. 1887 —

**9/2/2026**

**Item:** Artwork at Metropolis

**Department:** Planning & Community Development

**Item Description:**

There are no updates from staff as this time regarding the Artwork at Metropolis.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None



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— INC. 1887 —

**9/2/2026**

**Item:** Luminary Event

**Department:** Planning & Community Development

**Item Description:**

There are no updates from staff as this time regarding the Luminary Event.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None