



505 S. Garey Ave
Pomona, CA 91766

City of Pomona

Cultural Arts Commission

Draft Action Minutes

Chairperson Christian Ornelas
Vice-Chairperson Lisa P. Soseith
Commissioner Jovani Esparza
Commissioner Venita Rodman
Commissioner Dianna Batts
Commissioner Nancy A. Tessier
Commissioner Joshua Swodeck

March 24, 2025

5:30 PM

City Hall, Administrative Board Room, 2nd Floor

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Christian Ornelas called the Cultural Arts Commission meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Administrative Board Room located on the second floor of City Hall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Christian Ornelas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Christian Ornelas
Vice-Chairperson Lisa P. Soseith
Commissioner Jovani Esparza
Commissioner Venita Rodman
Commissioner Dianna Batts
Commissioner Joshua Swodeck

Absent: Commissioner Nancy A. Tessier

Staff Present: Betty Donovanik, Director of Development Services
Ata Khan, Deputy Director of Development Services
Jocelyn Ayala, Arts Coordinator

PUBLIC COMMENT

Andrea Galvan, of the Fox Community Culture Club, stated that she is interested in having an Art Festival in the City of Pomona and asked the Commission to consider funding the festival.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of Action Minutes from the Cultural Arts Commission meeting of January 27, 2025 and February 24, 2025

A motion by Commissioner Swodeck, seconded by Commissioner Soseith, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (6-0-0-1) to approve the Action Minutes from the Cultural Arts Commission meeting of January 27, 2025 & February 24, 2025.

Chairperson Christian Ornelas – yes; Vice-Chairperson Lisa P. Soiseth – yes; Commissioner Jovani Esparza – yes; Commissioner Venita Rodman – yes; Commissioner Dianna Batts – yes; Commissioner Nancy Tessier – absent; Commissioner Joshua Swodeck – yes.

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

DISCUSSION TIME: 1 minute (5:31 p.m. to 5:32 p.m.)

PUBLIC HEARING

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. 2025 Watercolor Contest Commission Award

Arts Coordinator Ayala stated that the submission ended last Thursday, and we have received 16 submissions for your review.

The Commission took some time to view and vote on the artwork located on the second floor.

Arts Coordinator Ayala tally the votes, and the winner was Artist Brooke Duran, “Mother and Daughter” Mural.

2. Update on Action Plan 2020-2025/Priority Investment List

Deputy Director Khan provided an update on Goal 1 – Goal 5 of the Action Plan 2020/2025, which consists of Investments, Process, Equity, Communication and Youth. He mentioned that

about 55% of the Action Plan has been implemented.

Deputy Director Khan stated that the recommendation tonight is to receive and file the status update and to receive a report from staff on the remaining work plan. He said we have eight action steps that we need to work on:

1. A Call for Ad Hoc Community Members launched by May 2025
2. Work towards completing the 2022 Call for Art
3. Work towards completing the 2024 Open Call
4. Complete Hamilton Park Call for Art
5. Complete Garey Underpass (Area 1) Call for Art
6. Chalk Art Festival scheduled for November 8, 2025
7. Preservation Call for Consultants
8. Facilitate a discussion with the Commission and the Community on how to move forward the next five years.

Arts Coordinator Ayala stated that Ben Frank was originally approved to place a large Mural across the community center at Memorial Park. She mentioned that he is unable to do this, because the building is labeled as a Capital Improvement Project. She stated that the building is very old and located in the historic district and it is possible it might be demolished. She said this location is no longer viable.

Deputy Director Khan stated that we are in the design phase for the City's parking lot across from Mi Cafecito. He said in addition Public Works is considering building a bridge on Mission by the 71 freeway and have included us with CalTrans. He stated that we are in contact with the bridge aesthetics team. He mentioned in the next couple of months we will bring forward concepts to the Commission.

Discussion only, no action taken.

Discussion Time: 57 minutes (5:55 P.M. to 6:52 P.M.)

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Arts Coordinator Ayala stated that the Arts Month Proclamation will be brought forward to City Council on April 21st. She said on the 2022 Call we have two active projects. She mentioned after receiving a termination letter we worked out with 3rd Season design to complete the Mural by spraying graffiti coating. She stated we found a new space for Alan Estrada, "Together We Rose" Mural. She provided updates on the four remaining Murals and preservation of Murals.

ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Arts Commission meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Ornelas at 6:58 p.m. to the next regular meeting of April 28, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Prepared by,

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Ata Khan
Deputy Director

Miroslava PourSanae
Administrative Assistant