



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date of Meeting

April 9, 2026

Start Time of Meeting

4:08 PM

Place of Meeting

City Hall, Council Conference Room

1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members

1.A Chair Eyre, Commissioner Dougherty, Commissioner Snedeker, Commissioner Wenz, Commissioner Young, Commissioner Lopez, Jerry Dougherty

Absent: Jensen Lopez, excused

Welcome guests: Teresa Chanes, and Jodi Polak

2. Public Comment

No public comment

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve April 9, 2026, Arts Commission amended agenda as presented

By: Commissioner Young

Seconded: Commissioner Wenz

In Favor: All in favor

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carries

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve March 12, 2025, Arts Commission meeting minutes as presented.

By: Commissioner Wenz

Seconded: Commissioner Young

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carries

5. Budget/Financial Report

5.A YTD 2026 Arts Commission Budget Update
Staff presented budget updates.

6. New Business

6.A Ellensburg Rodeo Mural Approval Request

Jodi Polak, Rodeo Board and Teresa Chanes, EDA presented the plan for updating the Rodeo Mural on 3rd and Main. The cost will be \$8,000.00. Rodeo Board is short of the total funds and working with the Fair Board to potentially cover the difference. Rodeo Board/EDA has the building owner's permission.

Motion to approve the restoration artwork of the Rodeo Mural as presented to the Arts Commission by Jodi Polak of the Rodeo Board.

By: Commissioner Snedeker

Seconded: Commissioner Dougherty

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carries

6.B Public Art Donation Consideration—Action Needed

Motion to accept the presented donation sculpture 1 at Node 30 and sculpture 2 at node 31 on the condition that the logo be removed sculpture 1 to comply with City Policy and City Risk Manager reviews sculpture 2 to assess risk. Additionally, commission approves plaque that recognizes the donation of Tim Cornia, of buddy's barkery.

By: Commissioner Snedeker

Seconded: Commissioner Wenz

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carries

Action Item: Staff will get assessment of sculpture 2 from City Risk Manager and discuss changes with Tim Cornia. Concern centers around the extreme points at the ends of the sculpture and height, as they could pose a potential risk.

7. Unfinished Business:

7.A America 250 Planning Update-staff gave update. Next countywide planning meeting is Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at the County Court House.

7.B Admission Tax Discussion—next steps? Jerry sent staff his schedule to be able to assist with scheduling a meeting with City Manager to discuss further.

7.C Committee Scope of Work Project Update--March 31, 2026

The noted commissioner(s) below will review and/or write the subcommittee scope of work.

Jeff: Creative District-update: Jeff, Kelle have reviewed, Therese is in final review.

Therese/Matt/Jensen: update: finalized—no additional changes--complete.

Alex/Jerry: Public Art—then send to Matt and Jeff for review. Update: in progress

Action Item: Send template from Artwalk to Jerry and Alex

Project Grant/Funding—Alex/Jerry/Jensen

Update: staff send past Scope of Work for revisions to Alex/Jerry.

Awards & Distinction—Jeff/Therese—Done—staff to note as final

7.D Open Arts Commission Position—Update/Review/Action Item

Commissioners discussed both applications and the current need of the Arts Commission at length. While both applicants are qualified; working artists, arts teachers, and both have previous experience in the public sector, the commission felt that one candidate had an additional professional skill that is currently missing from the Arts Commission.

The selected applicant brings the ability to catalog and preserve the historical stories of the City Art Collection and help the commission make the collection accessible to all, to capture and share the emerging stories from the Creative District, increasing awareness and growing tourism, and to assist with overall enhancement of community outreach and engagement through meaningful connections and leadership.

Motion: The Arts Commission respectfully recommends that the City Council approve the appointment of Emily Jacobs to the Ellensburg Arts Commission, effective June 1, 2026.

By: Commissioner Snedeker

Seconded: Commissioner Wenz

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carries

8. Subcommittee Business:

8.A

- Project Grant Funding & Advocacy: Jerry/Alex/Staff/Jensen:

Action Item: Update Project Grant Application. Staff sent 2025 application via email on 4/7/26 to subcommittee and again on 4/14/26

- First Friday Art Walk: Matt/Therese/Jensen/Staff:
 - New signage project—Some venues have expressed concerns with the flags and trying to secure them in the wind. The idea of having a windsock instead was discussed and has interest.

Action Item: Staff to help set up FFAW meeting:

- City Art/Public Art: Jerry/Alex/Jeff (Matt):
Action Item: Staff will set up a demo with Exhibit IQ with members of the Arts Commission and the EACA. The EACA board meeting is on 4/17/26, once discussed there, staff will set up demo.

- Awards & Distinctions: Jeff/Therese/Alex/Staff:

Action Item: Need to discuss timeline and planning for nomination process for Arts Treasure & Art Advocate awards.

- Ellensburg Creative District & Advocacy: Staff/Jeff/Alex/Jensen/Therese

Update: ECD is focused on implementation of the four goals of the 2026 ECD Strategic Plan:

1. Establish and expand ECD regional presence.
2. Finish implementation of the community calendar.
3. Continuing grant writing workshop series.
4. Creating an ArtPreneur Workshop: From Passion to Profits

Action Item: Meeting on Monday, April 13th at 2:00pm

9. Staff Update/Discussion Items:

- Bus Shelter update current call and pending open call for Rotary Park with specific parameters.
- Update on National Poetry Month Planning
- Exhibit IQ
- Utilizing Zoom Webinar

10. Council Representative Update:

11. Adjournment Time: 5:31pm

