

MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Sonja Foard
Commission Chair
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Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

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<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/452/Moscow-Arts-Commission>

**Tuesday,
May 12th, 2026**

5:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. Third St.**

Foard called the meeting to order at 4:59 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sonja Foard, Chair; Hannah Baker, Kim Crimmins, Sandra Stoops, Erica Wagner, Donna Woolston, Stefan Yauchzee
MEMBERS ABSENT: Cindy Barnhart, Michelle Chamberlain
OTHERS: Scott Sumner
STAFF: Megan Cherry, Jennifer Fleischman, Nichoel Baird Spencer

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Reading of the Mission Statement

The mission of the Moscow Arts Commission is to enrich the community by celebrating and cultivating the expression of all forms of art and culture. Fulfillment of this purpose shall be based upon the following values:

- *Recognition and promotion of artists' value by creating opportunities for work to be experienced.*
- *Facilitation and promotion of the social, educational, and economic value of all forms of art and culture in the community.*
- *Performance of leadership, collaboration, and outreach in the conversation between all forms of art and culture with partner agencies, city leaders, and the community.*

Baker read the mission statement.

2. Approval of Minutes from April 14th, 2026 (ACTION ITEM)

Yauchzee moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Stoops. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Crimmins, Foard, Stoops, Woolston, Yauchzee (5). Abstentions: Baker, Wagner (2). Nays: None. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and address for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

None offered.

4. New MAC Member: Hannah Baker (INTRODUCTION)

The Commissioners introduced themselves to the newest member, Hannah Baker.

5. Public Art Guidelines Update (ACTION ITEM)

Arts staff has prepared and the Legal Department has reviewed updates to the Public Art Guidelines. The last document was last updated in 2021. MAC members are invited to:

- *Review the proposed updates and recommend any changes.*

Upon recommendation by the MAC, Arts staff will present the Guidelines to City Council for approval.

Staff provided a brief history of the Public Arts Guidelines and reviewed some proposed changes, as described above. There was a conversation about eligibility criteria and the Selection Panels.

Yauchzee moved to recommend the Public Art Guidelines with some clarifications as discussed, seconded by Wagner. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Crimmins, Foard, Stoops, Wagner, Woolston, Yauchzee (6). Abstentions: Baker (1). Nays: None. Motion carried.

6. East City Park Stage Mural (DISCUSSION)

During the February 10th, 2026 MAC meeting, members discussed possible themes for a mural to be installed at the East City Park Stage. Members discussed the possibility of abstract or non-representational imagery. The following words and concepts were identified as possible points of reference for the artists: celebratory energy, volunteerism, and spirit of community. One possibility is to work with the current Moscow Poet Laureate (MPL), Miriam Akervall, to write a poem to serve as a creative prompt for the mural artists. MAC members are invited to discuss:

- *The concept of utilizing a poem written about the park as a creative prompt.*
- *Possibilities for public outreach that would support the poet's writing process.*

Staff will prepare a draft of the RFQ for this project to be considered by the MAC at a meeting later in the summer.

The Commission had a discussion about having the MPL contribute a poem for the RFQ, which would be brought before the Commissioners at a later time.

7. Third Street Gallery 2027 Schedule (DISCUSSION)

The MAC is invited to discuss options for Third Street Gallery exhibitions. The packet includes show proposals received throughout the year. The MAC may choose to incorporate these, if appropriate, or propose other exhibitions for 2027. Following this discussion, Arts staff will draft a gallery schedule for MAC review and vote at a later meeting.

Staff informed the Commissioners that the exhibit schedule for the next year is open for planning, following which there was a conversation providing feedback on the proposed shows.

REPORTS

1. Volunteer Hour Tally for April 2026

The Commissioners completed the April volunteer hour tally.

2. Subcommittee Reports:

- *ITC Sculpture Garden Selection Panel*

The Selection Panel met on April 20, 2026 and selected artists for the Sculpture Garden: Payton Hvass, Liam Peterson, Reagan Johnson, and Emma Jean Cresse.

3. Staff Report (Cherry)

- *City Shop Mural*

The City Shop Mural selection is currently underway, with a planned upcoming opportunity for public input.

- *MPD Sculpture*

The MPD Sculpture selection is currently underway, with a planned upcoming opportunity for public input.

- *Temporary Collection*

Eight new installations have recently been completed.

- *TSG Upcoming Shows*

Color and Process show is coming up next, followed by the Palouse Plein Air show in the fall.

- *Poetry in the Park on August 27th*

Staff encouraged the Commissioners to attend.

Minutes Approved On

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM

June 9, 2026

[Signature]
Clerk/Deputy Signature