

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Cultural Commission (CCCC)
Monday, November 13, 2023 • 12:00 PM
Community Center Robert “Bob” Crowell Board Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada

Commission Members

Chair – Barbara D’Anneo	Vice Chair – Susan Mowers
Commissioner – Curtis Horton	Commissioner – Bethany Drysdale
Commissioner – Samuel Flakus	Commissioner – Michael Smith
Commissioner – Valerie Moore	

Staff

Eric Brooks, Arts and Culture Program Manager
Anna Freeman, Arts and Culture Program Supervisor
Dan Earp, Recreation Superintendent
Todd Reese, Deputy District Attorney
Briana Munoz, Public Meetings Clerk

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the board’s agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record. These materials are on file in the Clerk-Recorder’s Office, and available for review during regular business hours.

All approved meeting minutes for this meeting are available on www.carson.org/minutes.

1. CALL TO ORDER

(12:00:53) – Chairperson D’Anneo called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

(12:01:03) – Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Barbara D’Anneo, Chair	Present	
Susan Mowers, Vice Chair	Present	
Bethany Drysdale	Present	
Curtis Horton	Present	
Samuel Flakus	Absent	
Valerie Moore	Present	
Michael Smith	Present	

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

(12:01:24) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained public comments. Mr. Brooks thanked the Commission for their support of the Murals and Music Festival and introduced himself as the new Arts and Culture Program Manager for Visit Carson City and the Cultural and Tourism Authority (CTA).

(12:03:16) – Chairperson D’Anneo congratulated Mr. Brooks and said the CTA made a “wonderful choice.” She noted that there was positive feedback on the murals. Vice Chair Mowers said she felt the murals were bringing

residents together. Commissioner Drysdale added that there was a “buzz in the air” regarding the murals and noted that the murals made the City appear more “artsy.”

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

(12:04:30) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item and entertained comments, changes, and a motion. Ms. Freeman noted that her title was incorrectly listed as “Arts and Culture Program Manager” instead of “Arts and Culture Program Supervisor” on the September 11, 2023 Minutes.

(12:05:12) – Chairperson D’Anneo called for a vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
AYES:	D’Anneo, Mowers, Drysdale, Horton, Moore, Smith
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Flakus

5. MEETING ITEMS:

5.A FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY MANAGER CONCERNING PROPOSALS FOR A DOWNTOWN GATEWAY MONUMENT LOCATED IN THE ROUNDABOUT AT THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH CARSON STREET AND SOUTH STEWART STREET.

(12:06:29) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item. Ms. Freeman referenced the Staff Report and the three project proposals from artists Curtis Pittman, Michael Szabo, and Karen Yank, all of which are incorporated into the record. Chairperson D’Anneo stated that she and Commissioner Flakus were members of the ad-hoc panel to review the 153 submissions. Ms. Freeman added that the ad-hoc panel included Commission representatives, local artists, an engineer, and several other relevant positions. She referenced the Late Material with the panel’s scores and comments, which is incorporated into the record.

(12:20:00) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained Commissioner comments. Commissioner Drysdale said she favored Ms. Yank’s piece titled “Sense of Place,” stating that she loved its attention to detail and representation of state elements. She added that the proposal was “beautiful” and recommended that the City place a marker near the monument to indicate the best angle for photos.

(12:21:59) – Commissioner Smith stated that the three proposals looked “great” but he was drawn to Mr. Szabo’s proposal called “Willows” because it represented community and togetherness. He added that although the monument did not represent “descriptive adjectives of Carson City,” he liked that it would be illuminated at night and said it was “a beacon of hope.”

(12:23:43) – Vice Chair Mowers said she felt that a majority of citizens would be proud to see Ms. Yank’s piece since it represented the City and the state. She added that it was “intriguing” and “interesting” and had “really great motifs.”

(12:24:39) – Commissioner Moore said she appreciated the panelists' comments and stated that she preferred Ms. Yank's piece. She referenced the Late Material and said she agreed with Panelist #6's comment on removing the eagle from the piece because it was distracting.

(12:25:08) – Commissioner Horton noted that all three artists were “very talented” but said it was clear that Ms. Yank “did her homework” by capturing the history and culture of Carson City.

(12:26:06) – Chairperson D'Anneo said the three proposals were “terrific.” She noted that Mr. Pittman and Mr. Szabo's pieces could be placed “anywhere in the world” while Ms. Yank's monument clearly represented Carson City. Chairperson D'Anneo added that she liked the Native American scroll and the symbolism of the round piece. She said she felt impartial about the inclusion of the eagle and stated that Ms. Yank's piece captured “both sides of the corridor.”

(12:29:51) – MOTION: Commissioner Horton moved to recommend the Karen Yank proposal to the City Manager.

RESULT:	APPROVED (5-1-0)
MOVER:	Horton
SECONDER:	Drysdale
AYES:	D'Anneo, Mowers, Drysdale, Horton, Moore
NAYS:	Smith
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Flakus

(12:30:59) – In response to Chairperson D'Anneo's question, Ms. Freeman stated that the item would go before the Board of Supervisors at their December 21, 2023 meeting.

6. STAFF UPDATES - FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

(12:31:39) – Chairperson D'Anneo introduced the item. Ms. Freeman reported that she was looking to meet with each of the Commissioners to understand their goals on the Commission. She added that the December 2023 meeting will include a full agenda to go over several proposals.

(12:32:44) – Chairperson D'Anneo asked for updates on a possible training session to review the responsibilities of the Commission. Ms. Freeman said the session could be placed on the December 2023 meeting agenda and asked the Commissioners to share any matters they'd like to have addressed.

(12:34:13) – Commissioner Smith requested that the Commission revisit the Redevelopment Authority Citizens Committee (RACC) grant rubric as a future agenda item. Chair D'Anneo agreed with Commissioner Smith, stating that the matter was important because it was “very confusing for everybody.”

7. MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION - FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

(12:35:18) – Chairperson D'Anneo introduced the item. Commissioner Moore announced that a Holiday Arts and Music Festival hosted by the Sierra Arts Foundation was scheduled for Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Silver Saddle Ranch.

(12:35:56) – Commissioner Smith announced that the third Annual Black History Program at Western Nevada College was scheduled for Thursday, February 15, 2024, with the theme “African American and the Arts.”

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

(12:37:12) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained requests for future agenda items and recommended that Commissioners share suggestions with Ms. Freeman.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

(12:37:26) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

10. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO ADJORN.

(12:37:37) – Chairperson D’Anneo adjourned the meeting at 12:37 p.m.

The Minutes of the November 13, 2023, Carson City Cultural Commission meeting are so approved this 11th day of December 2023.