

Public Art and Community Design Committee

Of the Arts Foundation for Tucson and Southern Arizona

Approved Minutes

Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 3:30 pm

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Agenda Item	Type	Presenter	Time
1. Roll Call to Establish Quorum	Roll Call	Sadie	5
Chair Ackerman called the meeting to order at 3:41 PM. She asked for a roll call to establish quorum.			
Members Present: Adriane Ackerman, Alisha Vasquez, Anne Lopez, Jacqueline Jean Barrios, Emily Tate, Jim Glock, Lizzy Golden, Wesley Fawcett Creigh, Valerie Sipp, Logan Greene, Janet Fischer			
Members Absent: Melissa Brown-Dominguez, Brandon Varela, Adia Jamille, Liane Hernandez, Dusty Reyes, Maureen Lueck, Nancy Fung			
2. Introduction of Guests & Attendees	Announcement	Adriane	5
Chair Ackerman asked the guests to introduce themselves.			
Kelly Wiehe, representing the City Manager's Office, Nathan Bacal representing Pima County District 1, and Gabriel Holguin representing City Council Ward 5 introduced themselves.			
3. Call to the Audience	Information	Adriane	15
Members of the public must sign-up to speak at the Call to the Audience: https://airtable.com/appEkdoNa9uaLutTZ/shr1SX8hMC5u3iS5p			
Chair Ackerman read the Call to the Audience script. One member of the public, Felix Lawrence, signed up to speak.			
Mr. Lawrence commented, "Good afternoon. I've got 3 points to cover this afternoon. The Public Art Plan, which is coming up in June, and the Public Art Plan, which is coming up in June, and a private free wall here in Charlotte, North Carolina. And finally, the removal of the Chavez statue. The Public Art Plan is 2 years old, and in June, it'll be coming up for approval once again. And if anyone on this committee have any ideas about public art, the Public Art Plan is a great place to get your ideas moving towards implementation. If you can get them			

in the plan, that's one step closer to implementation. Now, in the last two years, the committee has not made any changes to the public art plan, and in fact, last year, Mr. Reyes and Mr. Glock told the current chair of this committee that this committee had no authority to make any change whatsoever, even the most minor change to verbiage in the plan. This is simply a lie. This is not true. If you read Directive 7, That's the foundational document for this committee. This is where the city created the committee and delegated power to the committee. It's very clear that this committee does have power, and it works just like any other action item. You make a motion to change the public art plan, someone seconds the motion, then there's a discussion and a vote, and if the vote carries, the public art plan gets modified. So if some staffer here at the Arts Foundation or somebody on this committee claims, once again this year, that the committee has no such authority, they are simply wrong, and they are simply speaking a falsehood. Okay, so that's coming up next month. I really hope that somebody makes some change to this plan, because that would demonstrate that you on this committee have some ideas about public art. I do not believe that the status quo is perfect and could not be improved in some way. So please, prove me wrong and do something with this public art plan. Here in Charlotte, North Carolina, I discovered a private free wall. It's ultimately controlled by a rich developer. It is not a First Amendment opportunity for the general public, although it appears to be, from on the surface. Ultimately, the rich developer decides what artwork gets to remain on site and which gets destroyed. So, this underscores the weakness of a private property free will, in that when you're taking charity from a rich person, ultimately, that charity comes with strings attached. And that's the problem with a private free wall. And finally, the Chavez Statue. On the agenda today, you will be asked to form a subcommittee to officially endorse the city, an action that the city has already taken. Now, here's a metaphor for this. Imagine somebody steals your car. You know who stole it, but you don't report the theft because you know nothing's going to be done. Then, a month later, the guy comes back and asks you to sign over the title of that car to him. That's what's happened here. The city has stolen your authority and trampled on your jurisdiction, and is now coming back and asking you. For, a retroactive, Clemency for what they did, and please don't do it.

Ms. Shaw interrupted Mr. Felix to let him know that his three minutes had passed.

Mr. Lawrence thanked the committee.

Chair Ackerman commented that she has some information to share about the public art plan and a conversation she had with some of

the folks at the free wall installation that Mr. Lawrence was just referring to later in the agenda.

4. Committee Member Activity Report

Announcement

Adriane

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Chair Ackerman introduced the item and asked if any PACDC Members had anything to report.

Mr. Greene commented that Groundworks is doing a capstone event, their end of the year fundraiser on August 28th, 29th, and 30th called Camp Groundworks. He said he will send a flyer to the group. Currently they are planning the event, looking for sponsors, and fundraising.

Ms. Ackerman asked him to send the information to Ms. Shaw to announce it to the group. She also notified the PACDC Members that later in the agenda she will ask everyone how they will promote the Artist Roster RFQ to their networks.

5. Public Art Director's Report

Information

Wylwyn

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Chair Ackerman introduced the item and then gave the floor to Mr. Reyes.

Mr. Reyes gave an overview of the latest public art opportunities. He spoke about efforts to place the Turnkey Sculptures by Charles Clement into secure storage while the Relocation and Deaccession Subcommittee continues to deliberate. He noted that this was temporary and thanked the subcommittee members for pushing for this recommendation.

Mr. Reyes also mentioned the Artist Roster Request for Qualifications which closes in two weeks and that he encourages the PACDC Members to distribute this opportunity to their networks.

Ms. Ackerman asked if the South Park neighborhood association was invited to upcoming meetings.

Ms. Shiratori responded that they had not scheduled a new subcommittee meeting but that they would be invited.

Ms. Creigh commented that the neighborhood committee and Councilmember Barajas were at the last subcommittee meeting and that they are in the loop.

6. Review & Approval of April 8, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Action

Adriane

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Chair Ackerman introduced the item.

Jim Glock moved the minutes as amended. Second by Anne Lopez. Approved unanimously via roll call vote.

7. Relocation/Deaccession: Cesar Chavez Sculpture at 18th St and 6th Ave Action

Yu Yu 10

Chair Ackerman introduced the item and gave the floor to Ms. Shiratori.

Ms. Shiratori gave a presentation on the bronze Cesar Chavez sculpture at 18th Street and 6th Ave which was installed in 2020 by Artist Luis Mena. She detailed the reason for its removal due to safety issues and gave a history of the artwork. The artwork was commissioned in 2014 as part of a targeted initiative to enhance the Five Points intersection. It was designed as a gateway identity installation. The piece was intended to serve as a visual anchor for the historic intersections of these five neighborhoods and is part of Ward 1 and Ward 6. She added that on March 18th, there was an investigative report detailing abuses by Chavez. Immediately afterwards, the artwork was vandalized. To prioritize public safety and respond to overwhelming national and community opposition, the city executed an emergency removal on March 25th of both the sculpture and the archway which says Cesar Chavez's name. She noted that the criteria for deaccession and reason for its removal was that the artwork endangers public safety and had been determined to be significantly incompatible and inferior to the context of the rest of the collection.

Ms. Shiratori stated that a new deaccession subcommittee would review and evaluate the artwork in the context of the whole collection. She said that she notified Luis Mena, and he will be invited to the subcommittee once it has been formed. Because it was installed in 2020, the five years has also lapsed to meet the relocation criteria. She clarified that this deaccession was initiated by the city and in order to complete the deaccession the PACDC needs to review the request and form a subcommittee. When the subcommittee makes a recommendation, it will come back to PACDC for final approval then go further up the chain to the Arts Foundation Board, and then City Manager.

Ms. Golden asked if there would be another sculpture to take its place to honor the movement.

Mr. Reyes commented that it would not be replaced as the location is not a viable spot for new artwork since it is too close to the road and violated ADA compliance.

Ms. Golden asked if the plinth will be removed.

Mr. Reyes commented that he believes it will but the city can confirm that.

Chair Ackerman asked Mr. Reyes if the artwork has been removed there is no opportunity for replacement of any sort so forming a subcommittee to go through the process of confirming the removal that has already been done. She asked if the committee could reimagine what could go in its place.

Mr. Reyes commented that this discussion will happen in the subcommittee. They would request people with a history or profession related to the topic and neighborhoods to join the subcommittee who will decide what happens to the statue and the sign.

Chair Ackerman asked how many people from the PACDC are needed.

Ms. Shiratori responded that three people are needed.

Chair Ackerman commented that this may or may not be an opportunity as part of this subcommittee to reimagine what could take its place, even if it's not the same physical space as what was erected before. She asked if anyone was interested in joining the subcommittee.

Ms. Lopez asked if they are already on the Relocation and Deaccession subcommittee, are they automatically in this subcommittee?

Ms. Shaw clarified that this would be a new subcommittee specifically would be for the Chavez artworks.

Mr. Reyes stated that the city requested this subcommittee to be specific to the artworks.

Ms. Vasquez said that she would like to join this subcommittee.

Ms. Shiratori said that members who are already on the deaccession and relocation subcommittee would be well prepared to join.

Mrs. Gallego commented that this is also a great opportunity for new members to understand how the process is done. She encouraged people whose district or ward was in the area to serve on the subcommittee.

Chair Ackerman asked what ward and district are within the project area.

Ms. Shiratori commented that Ward 1, Ward 3, and District 5 were in the area.

Ms. Tate commented that as an active union member of the teacher's union she would like to participate. Chair Ackerman thanked Ms. Tate

Ms. Sipp commented that she is interested.

Ms. Shaw noted that they could have more than three subcommittee members.

Ms. Fischer said that she is in Ward 6 but is at capacity currently.

Mrs. Gallego asked Mr. Reyes if there are only seven seats available, so three PACDC Members would leave room for four community members to join the subcommittee.

Chair Ackerman thanked them for this information and said she would entertain a motion to form, the deaccession or relocation subcommittee for the Cesar Chavez sculpture at 18th Street and 6th Ave and maybe including other Cesar Chavez related artworks.

Ms. Vasquez moved the item. Second by Ms. Creigh.

Approved unanimously via roll call vote.

Chair Ackerman asked if there was a provision where the city can take emergency action without consulting the PACDC.

Ms. Wiehe commented that the Administrative Directives are policy and proposal only, they're not legal necessarily. When there was public safety involved, transportation swooped in and made a decision without consulting stakeholders.

Chair Ackerman asked if there was an organization chart for these situations for future meetings.

Ms. Wiehe added that she liked that idea, and it always comes back to the City Manager to sign off and that transportation comes into the conversation as well but ultimately things had to move quickly because of safety concerns.

Chair Ackerman thanked Ms. Wiehe and asked that the committee be engaged somehow if this comes up again in the future.

Chair Ackerman asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, she moved to the next item.

8. Update from Arts Foundations Communication Team

Study

Gia

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Chair Ackerman introduced the item and gave the floor to Ms. Del Pino.

Ms. Del Pino gave a presentation on the Artist Roster RFQ and asked the membership for their support in spreading the opportunity. She also mentioned the SaludArte segment on Arizona Illustrated that premiered in April. She noted that the recipients of the last grant will be announced in June.

Chair Ackerman asked Ms. Del Pino to explain what sort of opportunities the Artist Roster RFQ would allow for.

Ms. Del Pino responded that it is a pre-approved list that lives on our website for public art projects under \$100,000.

Ms. Shiratori commented that there are 3 or 4 CIP projects under \$100,000 coming up so being on the roster would eliminate the need to apply since all approved artists on the roster will be considered.

Chair Ackerman asked if the PACDC restricted the area of eligibility for the Artist Roster RFQ and asked how many applications have been submitted so far.

Ms. Del Pino said that they did not have many applicants and so she needed help with outreach.

Chair Ackerman asked PACDC Members to think about this for the next item. As a consequence of the restricted eligibility, they have less applicants.

Ms. Del Pino commented that much of the debate lately was how we can diversify local aesthetics, so this is a proactive way to do that.

Mr. Reyes said that the former artist roster would compile new artists nationally every two years, some of which may no longer be practicing. He noted that the window may be too small now, and they may extend it because having a list of 20 artists will not work, so they are considering opening it up to artists in the state instead of service region.

Ms. Fischer asked how they made it too small.

Mr. Reyes responded that before it was a national call. Ms. Fischer responded that making it local made it too small.

Mr. Reyes said he was unsure since it's only been open a couple weeks, and so there is an option to expand the eligibility if needed as long as it complies with the ADs.

Ms. Fischer asked how the artists are chosen for the projects.

Mr. Reyes said the committee decides. Ms. Fischer followed up asking if when projects come up they go before the PACDC.

Mr. Reyes apologized and said that the roster takes out the RFQ and when projects come up there is a panel for each project.

Chair Ackerman clarified that at a previous PACDC meeting they voted to have a subcommittee review the roster applicants, and to provide more opportunities to emerging artists they limited the application area.

Mr. Greene said that he shared the opportunity at Groundworks but asked if there was a flyer he could distribute.

Chair Ackerman noted that this was discussed at the PACDC Planning meeting to have a media kit.

Ms. Shaw commented that she sent members a graphic but not a flyer.

Mr. Greene said that he saw that and could put together a flyer from information on the website but wanted to check if there was existing media he could have.

Chair Ackerman commented that Gia was no longer in the meeting but she would connect with her about the flyer.

Ms. Shiratori said she would reach out to Gia. Chair Ackerman asked if she could also send other media to social media as well.

Ms. Golden asked what the goal was for the artist roster.

Chair Ackerman responded that it was around 100, currently they are at 25. She asked Mr. Reyes if he was considering expanding the deadline or the service area to all of Arizona.

Mr. Reyes said they were considering doing both.

Chair Ackerman asked if procedurally they could get a sense from PACDC members if they object. She noted that expanding the region to Arizona would keep the original intent, and she hoped that they could get to 100 if they extend the deadline if needed.

Ms. Fischer asked if anyone knows why the pool is so small, is it a matter of not being publicized enough. She added that flyers may be a good idea instead of just word of mouth before extending the eligibility to the state.

Mr. Reyes said that they've been using the same methods to promote other RFQs. In 2025 they had 954 applications for 10 different projects, 164 for Robert Price Park, 91 for Danny Lopez Park, 118 for Udall Park. He noted that it may be about the language they used, fear, or the region is too small.

Ms. Creigh said the deadline was two weeks away, and that artists are procrastinators who will apply at the last minute.

Chair Ackerman asked if there was application support like with other RFQs.

Ms. Shiratori added that if people have questions they are there to help, since it is a newer program not a stand alone RFQ it may seem unapproachable.

Chair Ackerman asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, she moved to the next item.

9. Report on Education and Outreach Efforts

Study

Adriane

10

Chair Ackerman introduced the item. She detailed the work done so far by the Education Subcommittee and future work to promote the public art plan, process, and promote outreach efforts by PACDC Members. She asked every member to indicate where they would share the Artist Roster RFQ.

Chair Ackerman said that she will share the RFQ with the Mayor's different groups on Signal as well as the Keeling Neighborhood Association by Wednesday the 15th.

Mr. Glock said he would share the RFQ with his email lists but noted that he would like printable assets and information that he can cut and paste.

Chair Ackerman asked staff to include language that includes the opportunity for application assistance from Arts Foundation staff.

Ms. Golden agreed with what Mr. Glock said and noted it would be nice to have something physical to share as well as graphics that she can text. She added that she will share the RFQ to neighborhood associations like Blenman Elm and Palo Verde as well as the Ward 5 Office. She also said she would put flyers up at Yoga Oasis.

Chair Ackerman thanked Ms. Golden and said she would try and get the information from the Arts Foundation.

Mr. Glock said he works well with a deadline. He said he needed to leave the meeting.

Ms. Shaw said that if Mr. Glock left the meeting, they would lose quorum. Mr. Glock said he will stay.

Mr. Greene said he shared the information in the discord server for Groundworks to the youth artists and to their social media. He also said he would be at Catalyst tomorrow and try and put flyers up there.

Ms. Sipp said that when she has something printable she will put it up around the Rosemont West and Colonia Del Valle neighborhoods. She also said she would share it with her colleagues at the UofA.

Ms. Lopez said she would share a flyer at Vail and Rita Ranch as well as Rhythm Industry Performance Factory and the YMCA.

Ms. Fischer said that she will share the RFQ with Ward 6 and with her husband who can share it to the Art Department at Pima. She also will share it with local artists that she knows.

Ms. Tate said that she will share the RFQ with the Arizona Women's Chorus group which is comprised of 100 women and that she would encourage them to share it as well.

Ms. Vasquez said that she will share the opportunity with some traditional artists and people who have been saying that the same artists always get picked so she would try and get them to apply.

Ms. Barrios said that she shared it to some people but asked if the RFQ was sent to the College of Fine Arts, CCP, Arizona Arts or other similar organizations so as to not duplicate efforts.

Ms. Shiratori said that they do send the opportunities to those organizations so sending the RFQ to individual artists would be helpful.

Ms. Barrios said that she would send it to individual professors who teach art or art education.

Chair Ackerman said that it is ok to reach out to organizations that the Arts Foundation has sent the RFQ since it doubles down on the

message, and they may receive so much information that they might have missed it and not shared yet the opportunity yet.

Ms. Creigh said that she needed to go but that she would send the RFQ to her artists' friends.

Chair Ackerman thanked everyone for their participation and said she would send the outreach list to Ms. Shaw to share with everyone.

10. Request Additions for Future Agenda	Announcement	Adriane	3
No requests were made.			
11. Adjournment	Announcement	Adriane	1
Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM			

Public Art and Community Design Committee Meetings are Open to the Public

Citizens, particularly artists, interested in public art are encouraged to attend. Action may be taken on any agenda item. This meeting will be held virtually unless otherwise noted on the agenda. Meeting materials will be presented as part of the virtual meeting. Community members who wish to speak at the Call to Audience can click on the link below and will be added to a list on a first come first serve basis: <https://airtable.com/shr1SX8hMC5u3iS5p>

Committee Members

Anne Lopez—W4, Lizzy Golden—W5, Emily Tate—D1, James Glock—AF, Janet Fischer—W6, Maureen Lueck—County Administrator, Melissa Brown-Dominguez—D2, Nancy Fung—AF, Dusty Reyes—AF, Valerie Sipp—AF, Adriane Ackerman—Mayor, E. Liane Hernandez—W1, Alisha Vasquez—D5, Brandon Varela—AF, Jacqueline Jean Barrios—AF, Adia Jamille—AF, Wesley Fawcett Creigh—City Manager, Logan Greene—W3

Accessibility

If you require an accommodation or materials in accessible format or require a foreign language interpreter or materials in a language other than English for this event, please call the Arts Foundation at 520.624.0595 ext 4. or email PACD@ArtsFoundTucson.Org at least 2 business days in advance.

Links

- Serving on a City of Tucson [Board, Committee & Commission](#) is one way that Tucson's residents can participate in local government. Boards and Commissions typically serve in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and Council. Tucson benefits from the knowledge and expertise that volunteers bring to these Boards and Commissions.
- The [Public Art and Community Design Committee \(PACD\)](#) is a standing committee of the Arts Foundation that functions as an interagency committee operating in compliance with Boards and Commissions.
- The City of Tucson uses [Administrative Directives 7.01-1 through 7.01-7](#) to implement the City's Public Art Program.
- Pima County uses the [Board of Supervisors Policy C 3.3 and Administrative Procedures 3-16](#) for the implementation of the Pima County Public Art Program.