

## **Cultural Arts Commission**

**Wednesday, January 21, 2026**

**4:00 PM**

**City Council Chambers and Zoom**

**(Per Government Code Section 54953(b))**

**Teleconference by Commissioner Ellen Rosenberg**

**633 Park Avenue, Park City, UT 84060 &**

**Commissioner Karen Tokashiki**

**50 Canyon Blvd., Mammoth Mountain, CA 93546**



### **APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

**Chair** Suzanne Karger

**Vice Chair** Carol Patterson

**Commissioner** Dana Torrey

**Commissioner** Marie Colmey

**Commissioner** Karen Tokashiki

**Commissioner** Ellen Rosenberg

**Commissioner** Alex Dicky

### **CITY STAFF**

**Parks and Recreation Director** Mark Leyman

**Cultural Arts Senior Supervisor** Eric Brinkman

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### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

Our mission is to provide excellent municipal services, preserve our small beach town character, and enhance the quality of life for our residents, businesses and visitors.

## MANHATTAN BEACH'S CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION WELCOMES YOU!

Meetings are broadcast live through Manhattan Beach Local Community Cable, Channel 8 (Spectrum), Channel 35 (Frontier),

live streaming via the City's website, and

via Zoom (Direct URL: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1614440182>, Meeting ID: 161 444 0182).

The City continues to offer an opportunity to participate in Cultural Arts Commission meetings via Zoom and in-person. The Cultural Arts Commission encourages the public to participate by submitting comments in advance of the meeting, no later than 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting, via:

- 1) eComment at <http://www.manhattanbeach.gov/ecomment> or
- 2) Email to [parksandrecreationcommissions@manhattanbeach.gov](mailto:parksandrecreationcommissions@manhattanbeach.gov) or [lrobb@manhattanbeach.gov](mailto:lrobb@manhattanbeach.gov)

All of your comments provided by the deadlines above will be available to the City Council and the public prior to the meeting.

Copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business referred to on this agenda are available for review on the City's website at [www.manhattanbeach.gov](http://www.manhattanbeach.gov), the Police Department located at 420 15th Street, and at City Hall for public inspection. Any person who has any question concerning any agenda item may call the Parks and Recreation Department at (310) 802-5448.

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, you should contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (310) 802-5448 (voice) or (310) 546-3501 (TDD). Notification 36 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

## CERTIFICATION OF MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA POSTING

I, Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, state under penalty of perjury that this notice/agenda was posted on Friday, January 16, 2026, on the City's Website and on the bulletin boards of City Hall, Joslyn Community Center and Manhattan Heights.

### A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

### B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

### C. ROLL CALL

### D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

This is the time for the Cultural Arts Commission to:  
(a) notify the public of any changes to the agenda; or  
(b) rearrange the order of the agenda.

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA

### E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**1. Cultural Arts Commission Minutes:**[CAC 25-010](#)

This Item Contains Minutes of the Following Meeting(s):  
Cultural Arts Commission Adjourned Regular Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2025

**APPROVE**

**Attachments:** [Cultural Arts Commission Adjourned Regular Meeting minutes of November 17, 2025](#)

**F. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTES PER PERSON)**

*Speakers may provide public comments on any business/items not on the agenda. While all comments are welcome, the Brown Act does not allow the Cultural Arts Commission to take action on any item not on the agenda.*

*The Cultural Arts Commission encourages the public to participate by submitting comments in advance of the meeting, no later than 3:00 PM, on the day of the meeting, via:*

- 1) eComment at <http://www.manhattanbeach.gov/ecomment> or
- 2) Email to [parksandrecreationcommissions@manhattanbeach.gov](mailto:parksandrecreationcommissions@manhattanbeach.gov) or [lrobb@manhattanbeach.gov](mailto:lrobb@manhattanbeach.gov)

*All of your comments provided by the deadlines above will be available to the Cultural Arts Commission and the public prior to the meeting.*

**IN PERSON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*Please complete the "Request to Address the City Council or Commission" card by filling out your name, city of residence, the item(s) you would like to offer public comment, and returning it to the Clerk.*

**ZOOM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*If you plan to speak during the meeting, join via Zoom at 4:00 PM in order to request to be on the speakers list.*

- a. *Join Zoom Meeting via the internet (download app if needed):*

*Direct URL: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1614440182>*

*Meeting ID: 161 444 0182*

*Please name yourself to include the item(s) you wish to speak on, whether you are the applicant, and your First & Last name. Examples: G.2 – Stephanie Sanders.*

- b. *Join Zoom Meeting via Phone Conference (Voice Only): Phone Numbers: +1 669-900-6833 and Enter Meeting ID: 161 444 0182*

*Find your local number: <https://comb.zoom.us/j/1614440182>*

*Upon calling in, you will be "muted" until you are prompted by the Host to state which item you wish to comment on. Your mic will be unmuted when it's your turn to provide Public Comment.*

**G. GENERAL BUSINESS**

*Each speaker may speak for up to 3 minutes on each general business item.*

2. Cultural Arts Commission 2025-2026 Work Plan

[CAC 25-011](#)

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**3. Cultural Arts Commission 2026-2027 Workplan**[CAC 25-009](#)

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss the proposed fiscal year 2027 Work Plan items.

**BACKGROUND:**

## CURRENT WORKPLAN

## PUBLIC ART PROGRAM &amp; NEW ART INITIATIVES

1. Provide options for new art initiatives for City Council consideration such as: Surfboards on Parade, Art Vending Machine, and Art Therapy for older adults. Receive feedback from City Council on Poet Laureate Program.
2. Update Public Art Master Plan.
3. Explore Olympics art projects and cultural events.

## ASSESSMENT OF HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS AND STRUCTURAL REVIEW OF HISTORICAL BEACH COTTAGE

1. Award contract for roof repairs at the Red House (PW).
2. Partner with LA County Library to provide digital access to historical newspapers and photographs.
3. Consider alternative sites other than Polliwog Park for a possible cultural library in partnership with LA County Library

**DISCUSSION:**

Staff recommends that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss the list of proposed items for the Fiscal Year 2027 Work Plan. Items that remain pending from the current workplan will remain on the FY2027 work plan under City Council direction.

## PROPOSED NEW WORKPLAN ITEMS

1. Murals
  - Upper north pier lot mural
2. Olympics Initiatives
  - Utility Boxes
  - Cultural Events
  - Exhibition
  - Watch Party
4. Historical Society
  - New storage options
5. Film festival with Mira Costa Students

**H. STAFF ITEMS**

*Cultural Arts Division updates*

*PATF Budget updates*

*City Council updates*

**I. COMMISSION ITEMS**

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

**K. FUTURE MEETINGS**

- January 19, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM - Rescheduled*
- January 21, 2026 - Wednesday - 4:00 PM*
- February 16, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM - Rescheduled*
- February 18, 2026 - Wednesday - 4:00PM*
- March 16, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM*
- April 20, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM*
- May 18, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM*
- June 15, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM*
- July 20, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM*
- August 17, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM*
- September 21, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM*
- October 19, 2026 - Monday -4:00 PM*
- November 16, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM*
- December 21, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM*



**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH**

1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
[www.manhattanbeach.gov](http://www.manhattanbeach.gov) • (310) 802-5000

# STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Date:** 1/21/2026

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**TO:**

Honorable Chair and Commissioners of the Cultural Arts Commission

**THROUGH:**

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director

**FROM:**

Eric Brinkman, Cultural Arts Senior Supervisor  
Janeth Medina, Administrative Analyst

**SUBJECT:**

Cultural Arts Commission Minutes:

This Item Contains Minutes of the Following Meeting(s):  
Cultural Arts Commission Adjourned Regular Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2025

**APPROVE**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The attached minutes are for the Commission's approval:

Attachment:

1. Cultural Arts Commission Adjourned Regular Meeting minutes of November 17, 2025

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH**  
**MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

November 17, 2025

Location: Manhattan Beach City Council Chambers  
1400 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Commissioner Tokashiki - Per Government Code §54953 (b) 50 Canyon Road, Mammoth, CA 93546  
Hybrid (in-person/Zoom)

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Karger called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**C. ROLL CALL**

Present: (7) Dickey, Rosenberg, Tokashiki (remote), Colmey, Torrey, Vice Chair Patterson, Chair Karger.  
Absent: None

Staff present: Senior Recreation Supervisor (SRS) Eric Brinkman, Senior Management Analyst (SMA) Linda Robb

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Cultural Arts Commission Regular Meeting Minutes: October 20, 2025

It was moved (Rosenberg) and seconded (Colmey) to approve the October minutes with one change: Pg 2, G.2.b. (Memorial for the Fallen) in line one, add Karger to the committee names, in addition to Tokashiki, Torrey. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote: 7-0.

**E. CEREMONIAL – None**

**F. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

**G. GENERAL BUSINESS**

2. Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan for 2025/2026

a. New Art Initiatives

- i. Public Art Brochure (Karger, Tokashiki, Dickey): Chair Karger updated, noting that the committee did a dry run of the proposed 50-minute downtown art tour, using a draft script. As envisioned, each tour will be guided by one or more commissioners, in small groups. Chair Karger thanked her fellow commissioners for giving feedback and walking the proposed tour course. The commission reviewed the draft script, and clarified locations and information regarding several artworks. There was a consensus that for now, “meta tags” and printed maps would not be used, however if public interest is generated, these kinds of things can be considered. It was noted that although there will be a script, when leading the tour, the commissioners should feel free to ad-lib as appropriate. Marketing for the art tours is expected

to start in December. Commissioner Colmey inquired regarding the Rainbow crosswalk on MBB near the pier. Commissioner Tokashiki informed that this was a city public art installation, and its purpose is to symbolize the welcoming character of Manhattan Beach. SRS Brinkman clarified that the crosswalk was installed after RLA did the city public art survey and it will be added to the art inventory when RLA performs an update to the survey.

Chair Karger invited public comment.

Scott Yanofsky, resident, and builder of the city's 9-11 memorial, urged that the city give a lot of thought towards maintenance of the public art that is approved.

- ii. Poet Laureate (Patterson, Colmey) SRS Brinkman reported that he has met with the county branch manager and teen librarian) and discussed the concept of transitioning the proposed Poet Laureate program to LA County Public Library. The branch manager, Cassandra Sargent, reported that she discussed the idea with higher level county library management and it was determined that there was no mechanism for making that transition. However, it was suggested that there may be options whereby existing programming based on resources that are in place, can incorporate some aspects of the proposal. SRS Brinkman suggested that the committee meet with him to discuss options. Chair Karger volunteered to join the committee.
- iii. Memorial for the Fallen (Tokashiki, Torrey, Karger) SRS Brinkman updated that the RFQ will be published in January, 2026. After the submission window closes, the applications will be vetted by staff; the Art in Public Places Committee (APPC), and Cultural Arts Commission. Ultimately the recommendations of the APPC and CAC will come before the City Council for review and approval including the allocation of funds from the Public Arts Fund and a decision on the memorial location. The RFQ will advise of the proposed locations with the caveat that a specific location has not yet been approved.
- iv. Public Art Master Plan Revision (Colmey, Rosenberg) SRS Brinkman updated: Commissioners Colmey and Rosenberg have been recruiting for the APPC and eight applications have been received so far. Staff hopes to have the APPC formed and scheduled to meet in time for a proposal to go before the City Council at its January 6, 2026 meeting. Staff will request funding for contractors to assist staff. Commissioner Colmey reminded of upcoming events (Holiday fireworks 11/14 and Pier lighting 11/19), encouraging the commissioners to attend and promote this project; postcards can be obtained by email request this week to SRS Brinkman.
- v. Bruce's Beach Public Artwork. SRS Brinkman provided a brief overview of the project including public engagement (online survey, Open House, APPC meeting) advised that tonight the Commission will review each of the six short-listed artist proposals and select one finalist for a recommendation to the City Council. SRS Brinkman reviewed the criteria and rubric to be used: artistic merit (40 pts), site specificity (25 pts), flexibility (10 pts) and feasibility (25 pts). He noted that the APPC ranked the top 2, being April Banks "Building Paradise" (1) and Toni Scott "Unity: Circle of Memory" (2). SRS Brinkman noted that all of the 6 artists indicated they are open to modifying their concept.

SRS Brinkman reviewed and the Commission discussed each of six proposals, indicating positives as well as possible issues. He indicated that ADA compliance will need to be reviewed with Community Development. The six proposals reviewed include: April Banks "Building Paradise"; Austen Brantley (sculpture depicting a Black family at beach); Hana Ward (lounging

sculptural figures); Toni Scott (“Unity-Circle of Memory”); Nekisha Durrett (three vertical boards); and Xaviera Simmons (four standing figures).

The Commission reviewed and discussed each proposal. The consensus was that all of the applications were of a great caliber, but two rose to the top – April Banks and Toni Scott but that both should be revised to address concerns. For the April Banks design, it was felt that while the design was very relevant and spoke to the subject of the Bruce family and site, the semi enclosed architectural design should be made less enclosed and open to public view (a safety issue). For the Toni Scott proposal, it was felt that the artist could make the piece more site specific by adding historically relevant images on the base.

Chair Karger invited public comment.

Scott Yanofsky, resident, and builder of the city’s 9-11 memorial, feels that while all submissions are beautiful artworks, he feels it is really important that the selection reflect what the memorial is about and what happened at Bruce’s Beach.

Chair Karger called for a straw vote, for each commissioner naming a preferred artist, with the following results:

Commissioners with a preference for April Banks: Torrey, Rosenberg

Commissions with a preference for Toni Scott: Karger, Tokashiki, Coley, Patterson, Dickey

It was subsequently moved (Karger) and seconded (Patterson) that the Commission recommend artist Toni Scott’s proposal, “Unity-Circle of Memory” be selected as the Bruce’s Beach public artwork, subject to the artist working with the city, to research and revise the proposal to incorporate specific references relating to the Bruce family/site history in the base area of the artwork.

AYES: Tokashiki, Colmey, Dickey, Torrey, Rosenberg, Vice Chair Patterson, Chair Karger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Chair Karger announced the motion passed 7-0.

## H. STAFF ITEMS

**Cultural Arts Division updates:** SRS Brinkman announced:

- December 7: MBAC Open House, showcasing the works and programs offered by city instructors.
- MBAC exhibit “Continuation” featuring the works of Charles Arnoldi, Natalie Arnoldi and Ryland Arnoldi, continues until December 28<sup>th</sup>.

City Council updates: City Council will review and approve the Commission’s next (2026-2027) Work Plan in February. At the next (January 21) CAC meeting, the Commission will discuss and finalize proposed projects for that Plan. All Commissioners should email ideas for work plan projects to Chair

Karger by December 15, and these could include items still active in the current work plan, ideas that may have been suggested in prior years, as well as brand new ideas.

**PATF budget update:** PAF currently has total balance of approximately \$1.6 million, with \$1.1 million allocated and approximately \$500 thousand unallocated and available; no funds nearing expiration until end of 2026.

I. **COMMISSION ITEMS** - None

J. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:00 pm Chair Karger adjourned the meeting to January 21. No objection, so ordered.

DRAFT



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# STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Date:** 1/21/2026

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**TO:**

Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

**FROM:**

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director  
Eric Brinkman, Senior Recreation Supervisor

**SUBJECT:**

Cultural Arts Commission 2025-2026 Work Plan

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Discuss Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) Work Plan items based on the input received from City Council at the February 19, 2025 City Council work plan meeting.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Fiscal implications, if any, will be developed on a project-by-project basis and presented to the City Council as necessary.

**DISCUSSION:**

Cultural Arts Commission 2025-2026 Work plan items:

1. Work Plan Item Discussion
  - a. New Art Initiatives
    - i. Public Art Brochure (Karger, Tokashiki, Dickey)
    - ii. Poet Laureate (Patterson, Colmey)
  - b. Memorial for the Fallen (Tokashiki, Torrey)
  - c. Public Art Master Plan Revision (Colmey, Rosenberg)
  - d. Bruce's Beach Public Artwork (Karger, Patterson)



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**TO:**

Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

**FROM:**

Eric Brinkman, Senior Recreation Supervisor

**SUBJECT:**

Cultural Arts Commission 2026-2027 Workplan

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss the proposed fiscal year 2027 Work Plan items.

**BACKGROUND:**

CURRENT WORKPLAN

**PUBLIC ART PROGRAM & NEW ART INITIATIVES**

1. Provide options for new art initiatives for City Council consideration such as:  
Surfboards on Parade, Art Vending Machine, and Art Therapy for older adults.  
Receive feedback from City Council on Poet Laureate Program.
2. Update Public Art Master Plan.
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**ASSESSMENT OF HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS AND STRUCTURAL REVIEW OF HISTORICAL BEACH COTTAGE**

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