

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

February 18, 2026

Location: Manhattan Beach City Council Chambers  
Hybrid (in-person/Zoom)

1400 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Per Government Code §54953 (b)

Teleconference by Commissioner Ellen Rosenberg – 35 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Unit 12d, New York, NY 10011 &  
Commissioner Ellen Rosenberg – 3/177 Edgeware Rd. Edgeware, Christchurch, New Zealand 8013

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Patterson called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

**B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**C. ROLL CALL**

Present: (6), Rosenberg (remote), Tokashiki, Colmey, Torrey, Vice Chair Patterson, Chair Karger (remote).

Absent: (1) Dickey

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

**D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded (Colmey/Tokashiki) to approve the agenda, no changes. Motion passed unanimously by roll call: 6-0-1 (Dickey absent).

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Cultural Arts Commission Regular Meeting Minutes: January 21, 2026

It was moved and seconded (Torrey/Tokashiki) to approve as submitted. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote: 6-0-1 (Dickey absent).

**F. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bob Perkins, resident, urged that the city create a Poet Laureate program, in that it will greatly benefit the city, does not require a large amount of funding, is affordable under the art trust fund and will not significantly impact staffing. He disclosed that, while he may be a candidate for the position, his purpose in speaking is strictly regarding the merits of having a Poet Laureate.

Steve DeBaets, board member, Friends of the Senior and Scout House Center, informed that a donor recognition wall is planned to be included in the interior of the new center; the board may be looking to the Cultural Arts Commission for review/direction on that project; ground-breaking is estimated as early as Fall, 2026.

**G. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan for 2025/2026

SRS Brinkman, with input from the Commission, provided brief updates.

a. New Art Initiatives

- i. Poet Laureate (Patterson, Colmey) Vice Chair Patterson updated: as the County has informed that it cannot adopt the city's proposed program (as it's a County not City library), the committee continues to reach out to entities that may assist or be interested such as local bookstores pages and Barnes and Noble. The committee will work on rewriting the proposal and meet soon to discuss; she feels that there is still a lot of enthusiasm in the community.

b. Memorial for the Fallen (Tokashiki, Torrey, Karger): staff continues to recruit submissions through a "Call for Artists" RFQ, open until February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Once RFQ closes, submissions will be vetted and prepped for review and he will convene the Ad Hoc committee to discuss the selection process which will be as follows: APPC recommendation short list → to CAC for a recommended short list → to City Council - approval of finalist, allocation of funding through Public Art Trust Fund.

c. Public Art Master Plan Revision (Colmey, Rosenberg): Commissioner Colmey updated: the committee in meeting, has narrowed a list of potential consultants. It is anticipated that the selection process will kick off towards the end of March, with a recommendation to the council late March/April.

d. Bruce's Beach Public Artwork (Karger, Patterson): on February 17 city council selected April Banks' "Building Paradise" as finalist, with direction that the artist and APPC work out and fine-tune the design to address some concerns regarding line-of-sight and materials to mitigate potential vandalism. These minor adjustments will take some engagement, but it is anticipated that the project will start late summer or fall and be completed within a year from now.

Vice Chair Patterson invited public comments; there were none.

## **H. STAFF ITEMS**

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

- 2/21/26: "Summer Camp Expo" at American Martyrs – families can explore variety of camps, see live demonstrations
- 3/2/26 Spring/Summer camp class sign-ups for residents begins
- Summer Clay Camp for kids (new) – 4-day camps hosted at MBAC (end of June through mid-August)
- Stop-motion 4-day animation camp (new) at MBAC, July 27 – July 30

**PATF budget update:** Public Art Trust Fund: balance of \$1.6 million, approx. approx. \$1 million allocated and \$591 thousand unallocated.

## **I. COMMISSION ITEMS**

Commissioner Tokashiki gave a status report on the public art brochure project, noting the robust attendance (60) at the January 31<sup>st</sup> tour of the downtown. The committee will now discuss next steps, whether to expand to other areas of the city, frequency, etc. Commissioner Karger thanked all commissioners for making the inaugural tour a success; feels consensus is that the event should occur at least once/year, definitely do again.

Commissioner Tokashiki announced that the Fair Board is looking for volunteers – spread the word! (see [www.mbfair.org](http://www.mbfair.org))

Commissioner Tokashiki asked for an update on the public art conservation/repair work; SRS Brinkman reported that repairs are going forward for the first 6 projects on the list; he will provide an update at a future meeting.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:32 pm it was moved and seconded (Torrey/Colmey) to adjourn the meeting to March 16<sup>th</sup> , 4:00 pm; motions passed unanimously.

DRAFT