



CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
MANITOU ARTS, CULTURE, AND HERITAGE BOARD
Regular Meeting Minutes
Meeting via Zoom
June 26, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Routon called the Manitou Arts, Culture, and Heritage (MACH) Board meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Chair Ralph Routon
Board Member Marcus Medina
Board Member Neale Minch
Board Member Peter Sommers
Alternate Board Member Jason Wells

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Vice Chair Kinsey Watts
Board Member Wren Almitra
Board Member Mark Lee (Excused)

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member Medina moved to approve the agenda. Board Member Minch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (4-0).

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. March 27 Meeting Minutes

Board Member Sommers moved to approve the March 27, 2025 minutes. Board Member Medina seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (4-0).

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Gerald Mitchell of Manitou Springs attended the meeting and shared that he had submitted an application for appointment to the MACH board as an Alternate.

V. REPORTS

1. Becca Davis, City Staff – Check distribution and Sales tax numbers

Finance Director Rebecca Davis reported on a list of awardees that have not submitted W-9's and are not pass-through recipients.

Board Member Minch moved to have an email sent to the individuals informing them that W-9s must be submitted by July 3, 2025, or the grant award would be withdrawn. Board Member Sommers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Finance Director Davis reviewed the financial report briefly.

Board Member Minch requested reports that show comparisons of 2024 and 2025.

2. Judith Chandler, City Council Liaison

Council Liaison Chandler announced that the Colorado Municipal League (CML) Conference is coming up. This year Mayor Pro Tem Natalie Johnson will be attending the conference, and she will be leading a breakout session on MACH. Council Liaison Chandler shared that there is a ribbon cutting for the playground phase of Soda Springs Park on June 30, 2025. She added that she will be hosting a candidate forum with City Clerk Elena Krebs on July 21, 2025, at City Hall.

3. Board Members Reports on Attended Events

Board Member Medina reported observing pottery classes being taught at the Manitou Art Center (MAC). He shared that the next Altitude Makers Market will be at Soda Springs Park.

VI. BUSINESS

1. Natalie Pulido update. Check received, mural plans in flux, hoping for further communication. Board action?

Grant Recipient Natalie Pulido shared the challenges she has faced since receiving the grant. She reported that the original location for her mural changed due to partial funding and then was redesigned for another location, which was ultimately voted against by the Manitou Springs Metropolitan District. She then reached out to the Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce. She met with Executive Director Jenna Wells and came to an agreement for a mural on an interior wall. Grant Recipient Pulido presented a letter of support from Director Wells.

Council Liaison Chandler encouraged the board to consider discussing future issues with project scopes changing after grant approval. She stated that since the City Council does approve grants, it would be worthwhile implementing a procedure for changes in the future.

Board Member Sommers agreed that the proposed changes are significant. He also voiced concerns that three of the board's regular members are absent and should be included in the discussion. He added that the initial plan for a mural downtown was to benefit the public and it has now become a project that will only benefit the Chamber of Commerce and its visitors.

Board Member Minch suggested the board vote on the change and present it to City Council for approval.

Board Member Medina recused himself from the voting due to the project possibly benefiting the Chamber of Commerce.

Chair Routon agreed with the suggestion for a vote for or against the changes to present to City Council for approval. He also suggested scheduling a Special Meeting to discuss the item further.

Note for the Record – Board Member Watts joined the meeting at 6:05 PM. Board Member Minch briefly explained the issue at hand regarding the project changes and process to her.

Chair Routon and Board Member Minch suggested the meeting be adjourned due to technical challenges.

2. Grant application feedback status.

There was no discussion.

3. Board Members – Ralph Routon and Kinsey Watts are trying to get on the Council agenda for reappointment in July. Lisette Casey is in the works for an alternate spot. Gerald Mitchell has also applied for an alternate spot.

There was no discussion.

4. Early look at the calendar for the 2026 grant process, grants covering April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027.

There was no discussion.

5. Discussion – Reengage with Audry Gray of Creative Alliance Manitou Springs to mento/coach applicants? (Audrey was not available for this meeting but could attend the July meeting.)

There was no discussion.

6. Appoint subcommittee to review guidelines and FAQs.

There was no discussion.

VII. DISCUSSION OF TOPICS FOR A FUTURE BOARD MEETING OR WORKSESSION

There was no discussion.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

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