



**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
MANITOU ARTS, CULTURE, AND HERITAGE BOARD**
Regular Meeting Minutes
Remote Meeting via Zoom
March 3, 2026

A. CALL TO ORDER (Also Determine Voting Status of Alternates)

Chair Routon called the Manitou Arts, Culture, and Heritage (MACH) Board meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

Note for the Record – Board consensus was to promote Alternate Board Member Wells to vote motions with recusals.

B. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Chair Ralph Routon
Vice Chair Kinsey Watts
Board Member Minch
Board Member Wren Almitra
Board Member Mark Lee
Board Member Marcus Medina
Board Member Peter Sommers
Alternate Board Member Jason Wells

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Alternate Board Member Lisette Casey
Alternate Board Member Gerald Mitchell

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member Minch moved to approve the agenda as presented. Vice Chair Watts seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

D. BUSINESS

1. Discuss strategy for possible rejections and making cuts, also whether to revise goal of \$130,000 for grants. (Ralph Routon)

There was discussion about information reported at the last MACH meeting regarding the fund balance, to update Board Member Wells. It was mentioned that the Board seemed to agree that a possible target goal for funding of \$130,000 would ensure that

next year's budget would not be impacted as much, leaving nearly the same for next year's grants.

2. Revise previous decisions as needed to achieve goal.

Board Member Minch moved to approve the recommended new grant amounts totaling \$130,000 for Tier 2 grants excluding The Manitou Springs Commons at the STACC, Flying Pig Summer Arts, Art on the Avenue and Women's Freedom Museum for separate votes due to recusals. Board Member Medina seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Board Member Minch moved to approve the recommended \$2,100 for the Women's Freedom Museum. Alternate Board Member Wells seconded. Board Member Sommers recused and Alternate Board Member Wells was voting. The motion carried (7-0).

Board Member Minch moved to approve the recommended \$14,000 for Manitou Springs Commons at the STACC. Board Member Sommers seconded. Board Member Lee recused and Alternate Board Member Wells was voting. The motion carried (7-0).

Board Member Minch moved to approve the recommended \$6,300 for Flying Pig Summer Arts Fellowship and Programming. Vice Chair Watts seconded the motion. Board Member Almitra recused and Alternate Board Member Wells was voting. The motion carried (7-0).

Board Member Minch moved to approve the recommended \$12,312 for Art on the Avenue. Board Member Lee seconded the motion. Chair Routon recused and Alternate Board Member Wells was voting. The motion carried (7-0).

Board Member Minch moved to approve the use of any returned grants up to \$6,000 for Manitou Springs Commons at the STACC for a maximum grant total of \$20,000. Vice Chair Watts seconded the motion. Board Member Lee recused and Alternate Board Member Wells was voting. The motion carried (6-1), with Board Member Medina opposed.

3. Discuss what to recommend for dividing Tier 1 funds, with total amount possibly to be revised and shared at this time.

Chair Routon shared the slide presentation he prepared for City Council and Board Member Minch stated that the figures were based on the recommendation of the working group that put Ballot measure 2D together, and the MACH Board adopted it.

Vice Chair Watts moved to approve Tier 1 grant recommendations, including \$160,293 for Haiwatha Gardens and \$43,716 for the Manitou Art Center, Miramont Castle and Manitou Springs Heritage Museum. Alternate Board Member Wells seconded the motion. Board Members Medina and Sommers recused. The motion carried (6-0).

4. Approve final recommendations, presenting to Council on March 10 with final action March 17. Possible special meeting March 12 after March 10 Council input.

There was no further discussion.

E. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Routon adjourned the meeting at 6:53 PM.

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