

MEETING MINUTES
FARMINGTON AREA ARTS COMMISSION
DATE: SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 at 6:30 pm
THE HAWK FARMINGTON HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER
ROOM: Lesson Room
29995 TWELVE MILE ROAD
FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48334
(248) 699-6712 www.fhgov.com

CALLED TO ORDER BY: Commissioner Ferencz AT: 6:37 PM TIME

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cheryl Blau, Celeste McDermott, Ted Hadfield, Don Fritz, Bree Schwartz, Jeff Dutka, Lesa Ferencz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lindsay Janoch, Sean Deason, Claire Perko, Cindy Carleton, Nora Mason

OTHERS PRESENT: Rachel Timlin, Cultural Arts Supervisor/Staff Liaison
Johnna Balk, Farmington City Council Liaison
Susan Warner, former Arts Commissioner, member of the public

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Commissioner Fritz support by Commissioner McDermott to approve the agenda without amendments.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0-0

APPROVAL OF May 8, 2025 MINUTES:

Motion by Commissioner Fritz support by Commissioner McDermott to approve the minutes without amendments.

Amendment:

MOTION CARRIED 7-0-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Makerspace Manager Emma Guzman invited commissioners to The Hawk Makerspace Open House on Saturday, September 13.

Susan Warner – Artist/former commissioner, attended to share her report on the artist in residence group. She interviewed all winners from 1978 to 2010. Turning the report over to the Cultural Arts Division.

FARMINGTON ARTS REPORT

Farmington Public Art Program Update: Commissioner Ferencz shared a link to the submitted artwork. Commissioner Bree connected with Melissa Andrade about the art pickup on September 20th, where Lesa will greet artists. Selections for the new exhibit will be announced by the end of the month, and City Hall will temporarily lack artwork during the setup process. The judging committee consists of commissioners and council members, and volunteers are needed for various tasks.

DDA Arts Update: The first art installation for the fired and fused project in the new art promenade was discussed. Commission members are encouraged to participate by purchasing tiles for the installation, which will honor the Rouge River. Tiles start at \$50, with donations appreciated to cover costs and support the promenade. Tiles will be available at

Harvest Moon Fest. Approval was granted for the DIA Inside Out exhibit, with hardscapes expected to be completed by November.

ARTS COMMISSION BUDGET

No information available at this time. Budget information will be reported to the Commission in October.

CULTURAL ARTS DIVISION REPORT

Cultural Arts Supervisor Timlin expressed gratitude to the commissioners for their presence at the City Council meeting on Monday night, where the proclamation celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Cultural Arts Division was presented.

Art awards are coming up quickly – Saturday, October 4. A photographer has been hired. Eli/Joy, the new theater managers, are hosting the awards ceremony. Participants are asked to attend and wear silver to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Cultural Arts Division. Joy (experience as a voice actor) will pre-record the presentation text for each award. Commissioners will hand out the awards. 25th anniversary video, with a musical score by Commissioner Deason. Edee Joppich (1978 artist in residence) recorded an interview. Edee is the oldest living Artist in Residence.

New art has been installed at The Hawk.

Farmington Hills City Hall Art Submissions – The deadline to apply is Monday, September 15.

The Hawk Makerspace open house is this weekend, Saturday, September 13, 3-7 pm.

Camp season was a huge success – over 1,000 participants in Cultural Arts Camps at The Hawk. Every Cultural Arts camp ran. 84% filled. Makerspace camps were offered for the first time. Hosted a steam camp and two youth sewing classes with a long waitlist.

Special services camps were well attended (just under 5,000, over 6,000 with aftercare).

Concert season stuff is about to kick off (DSO opens up), and Timlin encouraged Commissioners to take marketing materials.

Timlin presented the Cultural Arts FY 25 budget report.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Lesa attended a Parks and Recreation commission meeting. Discussed the importance of our commissions collaborating more frequently. Extended a blanket invite and would like to follow up with other commissioners to stop by one of our meetings.

LIAISON COMMENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE: Oct. 9th, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned by: Ferencz Time: 8:13PM

Minutes drafted by: Dutka