



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

8:30 AM

Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at the City County
Building in Room 209; attend virtually via Zoom.

A. Call To Order

Present: Chair Ritcherson, Vice Chair Puleo Moyer, Klehr, Curet, McKinney,
Fath, Yudice

Excused: Miquelon, Rose

Absent: Garrett

Quorum was established

Staff: Mark Fraire, Augusta Brulla

Call to Order at 8:31 a.m.

Present 7 - Chair RODERICK RITCHERSON, AMNERIS CURET, MARY KLEHR, Vice Chair
FRAN PULEO MOYER, KELSEY YUDICE, DESHAWN MCKINNEY, and DOUG
FATH

Excused 2 - MARCIA MIQUELON, and RICK ROSE

Absent 1 - JENNIFER GARRETT

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2025](#)
[MIN-618](#)

[MINUTES FROM THE 02/17/2026 ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
COMMISSION MEETING]

Attachments: [2025 MIN-618](#)

A motion was made by Puleo Moyer to approve the minutes from the 2/17/2026
Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting.

The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote.

C. 2026 Cycle One Grants Review

1. Discuss overall grant requests-number, dollar amount

103 applications were received in 2026 Cycle 1, with \$346,730 in total requests.
This reflects a 39% increase in number of applications from 2025 Cycle 1, and
a 26% increase in the total dollar amount of requests.

2. Discuss overall 2026 grant pool available dollars

The total 2026 grant pool budget is \$212,000.

3. Approve cycle one grant pool budget (gross) (action item)

The Executive Committee recommended allocating 55% of the total budget for Cycle 1, and 45% for Cycle 2.

The recommended 2026 cycle 1 budget is \$116,000.

A motion was made by Fath to approve the 2026 cycle 1 grant budget of \$116,000.

The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote.

4. Discuss/approve capital grant budget (action item)

The commission determined that the Capital Grant budget is not to exceed 5% of total available funds in any given cycle, resulting in a recommendation of \$5,800 for 2026 cycle 1.

A motion was made by Klehr to approve the 2026 cycle 1 capital grant budget of \$5,800.

The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote

5. Approve short order grant budget (action item)

Director Fraire recommended a short order allocation of \$5,800 (5% of 2026 cycle 1 available funds).

A motion was made by Fath to approve the short order grant budget of \$5,800.

The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote.

6. Discuss/Approve (net) cycle one grant pool budget

A motion was made by Yudice to approve the 2026 cycle 1 project grant budget of \$101,400.

The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote

D. Continued Discussion on New Grant Allocation Model(s)

Dane Arts staff discussed potential grant allocation models including:

- Artist and Community Collaboration Grant
- Legacy Grant
- Awarding a set dollar amount per award
- Grants divided by operating budgets

E. Discuss/Approve Updated Mission and Vision Statements

A discussion took place around proposed updated Dane Arts mission and vision statements.

Proposed Mission Statement: "To enrich the quality of life in Dane County, Wisconsin by supporting, promoting and ensuring equitable access to the arts, culture, history and creative expression for all residents."

Proposed Vision Statement: "The arts as a vital civic force - strengthening connection and belonging, fostering growth, and igniting a vibrant, creative community."

A discussion about the Dane Arts logo will take place after April, commissioners who wish to participate are invited to join.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Puleo Moyer to approve the updated mission and vision statements, seconded by Curet.

The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote.

F. Commissioner Portal Update

Use of the Dane Arts Commissioner Portal will be discontinued.

Legistar is the official record for meeting agendas, minutes, and recordings.

G. Director's Report

Reference Director Fraire's notes.

H. Future Meeting Items and Dates

1. Events Calendar

Commissioners are encouraged to attend Dane Arts-supported events as outlined in the provided events calendar.

2. Next Meeting Date

The next commission meeting is on Tuesday, April 14th at 8:30 a.m.

I. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None.

J. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None.

K. Adjourn

A motion was made by Fath to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Augusta Brulla pending commission approval.