

CITY OF NORTH SALT LAKE
ARTS COMMITTEE
CITY HALL 10 EAST CENTER STREET, NORTH SALT LAKE
MARCH 24, 2025

DRAFT

PRESENT: Rachel Chase, Vice Chair
Heather Hendrix
Heidi Smoot
Camille Thorpe
Suzette Jackson, City Council (via Zoom)

STAFF PRESENT: Sherrie Pace, Community Development Director.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jean Montanaro, Sheila Montanaro, Nicole Whetstone, residents.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Rachel Chase, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. She invited those present to introduce themselves. Sherrie Pace acknowledged that Suzette Jackson was participating in the meeting electronically via Zoom. She also reported that the previously elected Committee Chair, Tom Hewitson, had resigned from the Committee.

Sherrie Pace introduced the Committee to a new SharePoint folder that members will have access to. She stated this shared digital space will include documents such as the bylaws and rules of procedure, eliminating the need to rely on paper or email versions. She noted it will also serve as a place to upload and exchange large files that may be too large for email, such as artwork or project materials. She continued the SharePoint will house ongoing committee documents, including a spreadsheet for tracking annual goals, which members can view and contribute to at any time. She planned to send out the access link via email.

2. MURAL PROGRAM DISCUSSION

Sherrie Pace reviewed the remaining tasks for the mural program, noting the Committee was slightly behind schedule. She emphasized the need to identify buildings, form a community jury, and recommend the structure and theme for the program. She also introduced a shared schedule to help the group stay on track.

Sherrie Pace presented examples of artwork submitted by Jean Montanaro, using a PowerPoint to show how the pieces might appear on buildings. Camille Thorpe praised the presentation and asked to learn more about the artist.

Jean Montanaro explained that her father, David Montanaro, was a self-taught artist who worked in Utah for over 40 years. Sheila Montanaro added that he created most of his work in the area and hoped the buildings could carry on his artistic legacy. Committee members expressed support and enthusiasm for incorporating his work into the mural project.

Sherrie Pace shared that the mural site buildings were once part of the Bamberger rail line and reflected on the loss of Utah's trolley system. Camille Thorpe and Sheila Montanaro added details about the former rail corridor and its impact on the neighborhood.

Sherrie Pace presented various mural mockups using David Montanaro's artwork and noted how certain pieces fit better on different building sides based on their composition. The Committee praised the art's joyful, whimsical nature and its potential to brighten the City. There was a discussion about technical challenges, mural placement options, multiple installations, especially in the Town Center.

Heidi Smoot shared her impressions of Springville's mural grant project, which featured five themed installations and art walks, suggesting a similar approach for North Salt Lake using David Montanaro's work. She asked if the City's grant was the same as Springville's, and Sherrie Pace clarified it would be a Davis County Tourism grant, due in late summer, with a \$10,000 City match.

The Committee discussed possible mural locations, staggering projects over multiple years and issuing a call for artists with a set budget to guide proposal, as well as the possibility of creating murals and art installations in the Town Center and surrounding areas.

Jean Montanaro expressed enthusiasm about working on large-scale outdoor projects, with having some prior experience in wall paintings, though not at the scale of building murals. There was a consensus that September or October would be ideal months for mural work due to weather conditions.

Sherrie Pace mentioned the Davis Tourism Board's grant program, which could fund the project, with the idea of using murals to promote the City's visibility. The Committee discussions also focused on creating a walkable environment, with multiple murals potentially placed in key locations, and other ideas for community engagement:

- art competitions and exhibitions
- creating an artistic identity for the town center and entries to City
- locating potential spaces for artists and art galleries
- incorporating a cafe or retail space alongside art installations
- utilizing private properties for artist studios or workshops
- involving children and youth with art events

Sherrie Pace suggested the Committee discuss the potential theme for the mural project, with a possible focus on local artists and considering various artwork options for the Town Center. The Committee reviewed possible mural designs, themes, and locations to recommend to the City Council settling on the theme of “leaning into the future” and beginning the mural program with local artist work in the Town Center.

Committee Member Smoot moved to recommend the theme of “leaning into the future” to the City Council and honor the work of local artists during the inaugural year of the mural program in the Town Center. Committee Member Thorpe seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Committee Members Chase, Hendrix, Smoot, and Thorpe.

The Committee expressed excitement and enthusiasm for the art work of David Montanaro and were desirous to honor him with the City’s mural project. The Committee also considered ways to make the murals interactive, such as adding plaques with QR codes linking to artist information.

Sherrie Pace emphasized the importance of securing approval from the City Council and building owners before proceeding. The Committee discussed the idea of creating a vibrant art walk in the City, featuring permanent art displays, shops, and spaces for the public to enjoy as well as QR codes for engagement.

The Committee also discussed further steps, including reaching out to potential sponsors and developing a strategy for the project's budget and timeline. Additionally, Jean Montanaro suggested to feature a piece of art symbolizing protection at the City's entrance, reflecting the legacy of a local artist, David Montanaro.

3. REVIEW CITY BRANDING AND SIGNAGE PLAN

Sherrie Pace provided background on a 2021 grant-funded branding and wayfinding study focused on the Town Center. She shared that the study contained valuable recommendations for enhancing public spaces, including public art, unique seating, and features like murals and artistically designed bike racks. She emphasized the study’s usefulness in shaping ongoing projects and stated that the document would be uploaded to SharePoint for committee review.

Sherrie further explained that the City had since acquired a small triangular parcel previously eyed for a coffee shop, with plans to incorporate it into the Town Center’s landscape. She noted the City's landscape architect, who is currently designing Hatch Park, would also provide design concepts for this parcel.

The Committee discussed the branding study’s proposed monuments and signage, intended to replace outdated town center monuments. These included thematic signage, maps with mural locations, a unified town logo, and coordinated flag and light pole designs.

Rachel Chase asked about incorporating artistic elements into Hatch Park. Sherrie responded that interactive features, including a central sculpture and designated plaza spaces for art, were being considered.

Camille Thorpe spoke on a recent City Council discussion, during which Council Member Van Langeveld had proposed seeking professional public relations support to enhance awareness of North Salt Lake's identity—not just its physical location.

Heather Hendrix offered her expertise in branding and public relations to assist with this initiative.

Sherrie Pace expressed appreciation and noted the valuable skills within the Committee, adding that the previous committee structure had made it difficult to focus on art-related projects.

Rachel Chase suggested incorporating interactive musical sculptures like those found in Moab's Rotary Park. Sherrie confirmed that such features were being reviewed as part of the playground design.

The Committee also discussed the potential for implementing rotating public art displays, referencing similar programs in Ogden and Bountiful, where sculptures are leased and changed out periodically. The Committee agreed to explore the feasibility and cost of such a program, with the intent of preparing recommendations and a potential budget proposal.

4. DISCUSSION OF TREE PLANTING ALONG EAGLERIDGE DRIVE

Suzette Jackson introduced the topic of improving the landscape along Eagleridge Drive, particularly the corridor from the roundabout up the hill, noting that the City Council would soon review revised conceptual plans.

Sherrie Pace provided background, explaining that the Council had previously tasked staff with exploring beautification options and that a landscape architect had created conceptual designs. She explained that while these plans were extensive and costly, they served as a foundation for discussion. She noted key considerations included low-maintenance landscaping, irrigation, lighting, and welcome signage.

Suzette Jackson emphasized that the current entrance to the City from Highway 89 was unattractive and a common complaint among residents. She expressed excitement about the Committee's role in enhancing city aesthetics through landscaping, murals, sculptures, and other art.

The Committee reviewed example designs, some of which were inspired by native plantings in Sandy, Utah. Committee members, including Heidi Smoot and Rachel Chase, expressed a preference for more natural, native landscaping over the Tuscan-style renderings, agreeing that it would better match North Salt Lake's identity.

The Committee discussed using consistent landscaping themes citywide, including the potential for flowering trees such as Japanese cherry blossoms to become a recognizable feature. Heidi Smoot and Sherrie Pace agreed that design elements should be cohesive across City entrances, including future I-15 and 2600 South improvements, and suggested the Committee establish standard landscaping guidelines for future projects.

Suzette Jackson reiterated her interest in beautifying the Eagleridge Drive corridor and encouraged members to begin thinking of ideas.

Camille Thorpe reminded the Committee to consider views, such as sunsets or rooftops, when planning tree placement.

5. EAGLEWOOD GOLF COURSE STAGE FOR LIBERTY FEST

Sherrie Pace introduced an early-stage concept to construct a permanent stage at Eaglewood Golf Course. She stated the idea stemmed from the annual \$15,000 expense to rent a stage for Liberty Fest, with hopes a permanent structure could also be used year-round for concerts, plays, or other events. She explained the proposal was described as a “napkin sketch” and had not been professionally developed.

Heidi Smoot, who resides near the golf course, expressed strong concerns on behalf of nearby residents. She cited existing noise issues, loss of peace and quiet, increased traffic during events, and diminished property values as major drawbacks. She emphasized that homeowners purchased with the expectation of a peaceful golf course setting, not a public venue.

Rachel Chase and Sherrie Pace discussed alternative locations on the golf course that might be less intrusive, as well as implementing specific usage hours and considering existing or future noise ordinances. The Committee also explored the idea of constructing the stage into a hillside or closer to the clubhouse.

Suzette Jackson mentioned that the City was already considering building a stage at Hatch Park, which could serve as a larger permanent venue. She suggested possibly investing in a single stage at Hatch Park instead of constructing one at the golf course.

The Committee widely supported the idea of a portable or modular stage as a potential compromise. The Committee discussed that this would reduce recurring rental costs, allow

flexibility across multiple city parks, and distribute the cultural and entertainment impact more evenly.

Jean Montanaro noted that she was familiar with another resident that specializes in building collapsible, portable stages for national clients and could be a valuable resource.

The Committee responded enthusiastically to the collaborative brainstorming and potential community connections, expressing appreciation for the diverse input and creative problem-solving.

6. DISCUSSION COMMITTEE GOALS AND PROGRAMS

Sherrie Pace stated that based on the night's discussion she would incorporate the goals and programs discussed by the Committee into a spreadsheet that could be shared with the group.

7. REPORT ON APPROVED COMMITTEE BYLAWS

Sherrie Pace reported the City Council had approved the bylaws with a small change that would give more flexibility on the meeting dates, if needed.

8. DISCUSSION REGARDING FORMULATING COMMITTEE GOALS AND PROGRAMS

Rachel Chase reiterated that the Committee had been formulating Committee goals and programs throughout the meeting and those would be incorporated into a spreadsheet and shared through SharePoint.

9. NEXT MEETING MAY 5, 2025

The Committee discussed that several would be unavailable for the next meeting on May 5, 2025. The consensus of the Committee was to hold the next meeting on April 28, 2025 when a majority could attend.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Arts Committee minutes of March 3, 2025 were reviewed and approved as drafted.

Committee Member Thorpe moved to approve the minutes of March 3, 2025. Committee Member Smoot seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Committee Members Chase, Hendrix, Smoot, and Thorpe.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The foregoing was approved by the Arts Committee of the City of North Salt Lake on April 21, 2025 by unanimous vote of all members present.

Wendy Page, City Recorder



CITY OF NORTH SALT LAKE

ARTS COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA APRIL 21, 2025 6:30 P.M.

Notice is given that the City of North Salt Lake's Arts Committee will hold a meeting on **April 21, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held in the Council Conference Room on the 2nd Floor of City Hall, 10 East Center Street, North Salt Lake, Utah. Some members may participate electronically.

The following items of business will be discussed; the order of business may be changed as time permits.

AGENDA ITEMS

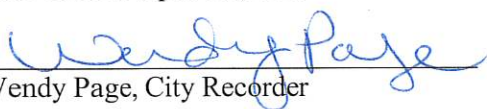
1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Citizen Comment
3. Mural Program
4. Arts Committee 2025 Goals
5. Budget Requests for FY26
6. Programs and Events Updates
7. Approve Meeting Minutes – March 24, 2025
8. Adjourn

Arts Committee meetings are open to the public. If you need special accommodation to participate in the meeting, please call (801) 335-8709 with at least 24 hours' notice.

Notice of Posting:

I, the duly appointed City Recorder for the City of North Salt Lake, certify that copies of the agenda for the Arts Committee meeting to be held **April 21, 2025** were posted on the Utah Public Notice Website: <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/>, City's Website: <https://www.nslcity.org>, and at City Hall: 10 E. Center St. NSL.

Date Posted: April 17, 2025


Wendy Page, City Recorder

