



Public Art Commission Meeting Minutes

Jen Perry, Chair
Katie Gasper, Vice Chair
Colleen Andrus
Sam Colston
Dana Frazee
Inger Hiller
KC Neel

Thursday, June 12, 2025

4:00 PM

Central Service Center
1400 Caprice Drive
Castle Rock, CO 80109

This meeting is open to the public. All times indicated on the agenda are approximate. Three or more Council members may also attend this meeting, during which the items listed herein will be discussed.

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CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Katie Gasper called the meeting to order at approximately 4:02 p.m.
Staff Liaison Maia Yates was in attendance, as was Council Liaison Ryan Hollingshead. KC Neel attended as a member of the public.

Present 4 - Vice Chair Katie Gasper, Commissioner Colleen Andrus, Commissioner Samuel Colston, and Commissioner Dana Frazee

Not Present 2 - Chair Jen Perry, and Commissioner Inger Hiller

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

[PAC 2025-011](#) Approval of the Minutes

Vice Chair Katie Gasper motioned and Dana Frazee seconded the approval of the May 8, 2025 meeting minutes; the motion passed unanimously.

"I move to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2025 Public Art Commission meeting."

AGENDA ITEMS

[PAC 2025-012](#) Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Vice Chair Katie Gasper motioned to appoint Jen Perry to serve as Chair, which was seconded by Dana Frazee, and Dana Frazee motioned to appoint Katie Gasper to serve as Vice Chair, which was motioned by Colleen; both motions passed unanimously.

"I move to appoint Jen Perry to serve as Chair of the Public Art Commission and Katie Gasper to serve as Vice Chair from June 2025 through May 2026."

Yes: 4 - Vice Chair Gasper, Commissioner Andrus, Commissioner Colston, and Commissioner Frazee

Not Present: 2 - Chair Perry, and Commissioner Hiller

PAC 2025-013 Review and Approve the Bylaws

Dana Frazee motioned and Vice Chair Katie Gasper seconded the approval of the bylaws; the motion passed unanimously.

"I move to approve the Bylaws of the Public Art Commission as presented."

Yes: 4 - Vice Chair Gasper, Commissioner Andrus, Commissioner Colston, and Commissioner Frazee

Not Present: 2 - Chair Perry, and Commissioner Hiller

PAC 2025-014 Continuing and New Discussion Items for Strategic Initiatives

Members continued discussing new and continuing strategic items from the Public Art Plan.

Melanie Schambach, a local artist who recently moved to Castle Rock, shared a video with Staff Liaison Maia Yates to present to the commission during the meeting due to being out of state. She shared her artistic approach, which centers on participatory formats that engage communities in the creation of large-scale collaborative paintings. Her process begins with posing a central question that invites participants to reflect and respond through visual storytelling. Each painting becomes a collective artwork composed of hundreds of individual contributions, with a unifying image that encapsulates the shared responses and community narratives.

Melanie brings a rich cultural background to her work, with roots in Colombia, Germany, Canada, and beyond. She recounted a personal story of her grandmother, who volunteered teaching salsa to soldiers, leading to a cross-cultural love story and move to Colombia. In her teens, Melanie lived in Guatemala City, where she was deeply impacted by the visible disparities in wealth and opportunity. These life experiences have inspired her commitment to art as a means of connection, healing, and social impact.

For the past 25 years, Melanie has lived in Canada and completed collaborative paintings in communities around the world. She described the powerful effect of shared storytelling in building community and fostering empathy, love, and friendship.

Melanie is now proposing to self-fund a collaborative painting project in Castle Rock. She has approached the Town to explore how best to launch the project and is seeking support with logistics, space, and community engagement. Her vision is to invite people of all ages and backgrounds from Castle Rock and Douglas County to reflect on the question, "What if we really believed in the power of imagination?"

She plans to host approximately twelve community events, where she will lay the canvas on the floor, provide paint palettes, and allow participants to contribute freely. Informational signage will be displayed to explain the project. Over time, the canvas will evolve into a visual tapestry of diverse inputs, practices, and messages. The final artwork, painted on transportable canvas, will be exhibited during the winter months.

Melanie emphasized that the painting will belong to the public and serve as a gift to the community in the spirit of generosity. She is committed to documenting each contributor to recognize their role in the project and foster a sense of ownership and connection.

Her goal is to engage an average of 10 people per event and involve over 100 individuals throughout the course of the project.

Maia, Vice Chair Katie Gapser and Dana Frazee planned to coordinate a follow-up meeting with Melanie to further discuss the project and see if the Town and/or Tri Arts Project could be a good fit for program facilitation.

Maia also provided an update that Town staff were awaiting contract details from the vinyl wrap vendor, but hope to have the new artwork, "Complete Racoonery," installed by the end of the month at the Festival Park restroom facility. KC Neel expressed urgency regarding completing the installation in June due to the scheduled events taking place for the holiday the first week of July. Colleen Andrus inquired how the Town would communicate the artwork to the public, and Maia explained that we typically coordinate with the Communications Division to feature projects on social media channels. Colleen expressed that the Castle Pine Connections may like to feature a story and offered to provide a connection to someone she knows who works at the newspaper. KC also suggested sharing the art and timing of the project with the Downtown Merchants Association to see if they could further assist with outreach on their channels as well.

Staff provided an overview of the sculpture enhancement project adjacent to Town Hall near Wilcox Street and the Sellars Gulch Bridge. At the May meeting, it was suggested to potentially replace And The Wheels Go Round, which is the sculpture currently installed, with Sweet Tooth. After some discussion, it was confirmed that the commission would like to relocate the bear sculpture to the site and potentially relocate And The Wheels Go Round to the roundabout at Wilcox and South streets. Members directed Maia to inquire with Town staff regarding the feasibility of the placement of art in the roundabout. KC suggested that the sculpture could be enhanced with lighting if featured in the roundabout as well.

Staff provided an update that installations had been completed for Douglas County Art Encounters. County partners are now working on preparing plaques and information for distribution prior to news release announcements across the region. Staff also shared feedback received that the bear sculpture at Third and Perry should be turned to face the traffic and not pedestrians on the sidewalk. Members confirmed that switching the sculpture's direction would be appropriate and directed staff to complete the change.

Staff provided an update on the scheduled social media and newsletter outreach for May. The Town's various social channels featured the Art Encounters installations and were very well received by the public. The Parks and Recreation Department's email newsletter featured the Art and Culture Grant Program. June outreach is planned to feature the installation of the vinyl wrap at Festival Park.

Staff confirmed with the commission that the Art and Culture Grant Program had been formally approved by Town Council and that the application was open. Members decided to finalize the grant rubric and evaluation panel at their July

meeting.

Regarding the proposed sculpture series of three giant cows called The Big Drive, staff noted that they had a meeting scheduled the following day with Development Services to review the zoning at Rock Park Open Space to assess the site as a potential installation location.

Lastly, staff reminded the commission that submissions for the Tiny Art Quest would be reviewed in July to select finalists for the 2025 program and confirmed that the Castle Rock Artist Alliance also planned to attend the next meeting to provide an update on their current projects.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURN

Katie Gasper motioned and Dana Frazee seconded the adjournment of the meeting at 5:15 p.m.