



## Independence Arts Council

July 7, 2026 5:30 PM

Independence Municipal Commons  
Room 149 — Santa Fe  
20201 East Jackson Drive  
Independence, MO 64057

### CALL TO ORDER

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. April 7, 2026

### OLD BUSINESS

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of a Permanent Art Solution and Long-Term Art Plan for the Independence Municipal Commons.
2. Discussion of the Independence Public Arts Plan and Associated Implementation Process.

### ADJOURNMENT



## Independence Arts Council Minutes

April 7, 2026 5:30 PM

Independence Municipal Commons  
Room 148/149- Oregon/Santa Fe  
20201 East Jackson Drive  
Independence, MO 64057

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM.

Members GK Callahan, Nancy Eppert, Tom Hall, Katie Gall, Donna Knold, Cindy McClain, Alan Voss, and Carly Young were present.

Councilmember Heather Wiley and Assistant City Manager Charlie Dissell, representing the City, were also present.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. January 6, 2026

Callahan moved to approve the minutes, and Young seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the January 6, 2026, minutes were approved unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Consider Recommendation on Amended Public Arts Policy

Eppert provided a summary of actions to date, including the City Council Study Session held on March 23. Eppert asked whether any Arts Council members had further discussions with City Council members following that session. Callahan noted that he had spoken with Council members about the possibility of removing street projects from the policy. Dissell added that feedback he has received from Council members indicates support for establishing

a total funding cap. Eppert referenced the \$1 million cap discussed in the Council presentation.

McClain stated that the Arts Council is still reestablishing itself, and beginning with a \$1 million cap is appropriate. She added that once the program is more established, the cap can be reevaluated. Hall agreed.

Young asked whether contributions could be requested from existing development projects.

Callahan proposed adding a clause requiring eligible projects to contribute funding when possible, such as projects receiving grant funding that allows expenditures on public art. Hall expressed a preference to keep the policy simple for now and revisit additional requirements later, and Eppert agreed. Callahan then asked whether an exception could be considered for Parks projects, noting the benefit of incorporating art into parks. Councilmember Wiley stated she could ask the Council to consider including such a provision.

Eppert asked the Arts Council whether to include a \$1 million cap in the policy, and the Council agreed. Eppert also asked whether to remove construction of park, road, bridge, trail, and utility projects from policy applicability, and the Council agreed.

Callahan moved to recommend approval of the revised Public Arts Policy to the City Council, contingent upon receiving information from other municipalities regarding their programs, which could be provided as supplemental information to the Council. Young seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Hall asked when the policy could be presented to the City Council. Dissell noted that once the additional information is received, it will take approximately three weeks to place the item on a Council agenda.

## 2. Update on 1% for the Arts Relating to Fire Station Projects

Dissell updated the Arts Council, noting that funding for the new National Parks Visitors Center has been delayed. As a result, the Fire Department would prefer to proceed with creating a firefighters' memorial. Callahan asked whether some of the sculptures could be designed to allow children to interact and play on them. Eppert inquired about the RFP process and asked the Arts Council to remain in communication with the Fire Chief at key decision-making points.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 1. Discussion of Temporary Art Solution and Plan for Permanent Art at the Independence Municipal Commons

Dissell discussed the plan to install artwork in the second-floor lobby area of the Independence Municipal Commons, in coordination with the Englewood Arts Center. Callahan provided additional details regarding the artwork and noted that it would be on loan to the City for four months. Dissell informed the Arts Council that a permanent solution for displaying art in this space is needed and that this item will be added to the next agenda for discussion. He asked the Arts Council to strategize prior to the next meeting and bring

forward ideas.

*\*\*\*Following adjournment, some members of the Arts Council toured the second-floor lobby area where the artwork will be placed.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 PM