



City of Greenwood Village

Minutes – Final Arts & Humanities Council

6060 South Quebec Street
Greenwood Village, CO
80111

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Thursday, February 19, 2026

4:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Greenwood Village Arts & Humanities Council met on Thursday, February 19th 2026 at the Curtis Center for the Arts, 2349 E Orchard Road, Greenwood Village, County of Arapahoe, State of Colorado. Tonight's meeting was called to order at 4:35PM by Council Chair Anne Cashman.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Anne Cashman, Stephani Davis, Zoe Hochsadt, Ilana Norton, Kathleen Smith, Tina Suszynski, Deborah Tolley

Absent: 2 - Pat Aaron, Ellie Moller

Guests: 2 - Bob Doyle, Greenwood Village City Council Member District 2; Josh Morin, Parks Project Manager

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Arts Council Member Deborah Tolley, seconded by Arts Council Member Kathleen Smith; to Approve the draft minutes from the January 15th 2026 GVAHC meeting. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

A. January 2026 Meeting Minutes (2026-48)

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered at tonight's meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Carson Park Artist Selection Round 1 (2026-49)

Cultural Arts Manager Lisa Neeper thanked all members of GVAHC for submitting their jury scores online prior to tonight's meeting, and explained that all artists who had received a cumulative score less than 4.0, and/or were not residents of Colorado, were removed from further consideration. A total of 10 artists remained to be considered by the Arts Council.

Cultural Arts Administrative Assistant Cheri Awalt then presented the 10 artists up for consideration, including the total cumulative score, images of work samples, answers to application questions, and price range for each. Comments made during the online review by Arts Council Member Pat Aaron were also shared with the group to ensure that her voice was part of the conversation, despite her absence from the meeting. After a quick review, Arts Council Chair Anne Cashman suggested that the group go around the table and explain their personal vision for public art in Carson Park, and note any artists they were especially drawn to and why. Discussion proceeded as follows:

- City Council Member Bob Doyle, who joined tonight's meeting as a guest observer, encouraged GVAHC to consider whether they favored a single statement sculpture vs. a series of multiple pieces, and how each option may serve their vision for the Carson Park project.
- Arts Council Member Kathleen Smith noted that some submissions clearly came from career artists, while others seemed to come from less experienced hobbyists/welders, and she cautioned that experience should be a significant consideration as the list of artists was whittled down. She noted that it is a stated value of Greenwood Village that the city be "pretty," so that was something she paid attention to when looking at submissions. She also stated that she was disappointed with the quality and quantity of submissions overall, and felt that several submissions lacked thoughtful consideration of the site or context, and were more expensive than she would have preferred. As for elements that appealed to her, Kathleen shared that she tended to prefer figurative works over abstract, and also favored natural materials such as copper or bronze, or rock/stone, which she related to the signage on boulders throughout the village.
- Arts Council Member Deborah Tolley shared that she was drawn to submissions that utilized color, whimsy, and movement. She also appreciated motifs that referenced native grasses and other plants. She further mentioned a particular artist who submitted a body of work that included several colorful mosaics, although that artist had not received a high enough cumulative score to be considered at tonight's meeting.
- Arts Council Chair Anne Cashman expressed that her vision for the Carson Park project was to build on the other park improvements to create a new community hub, which would serve as a backdrop for celebrations and performances with wide appeal for all ages. She hopes to select something that would make a pleasing backdrop for pictures, adding beauty and memorability to public gatherings. When reviewing submissions, she stated that she looked for pieces that felt happy and whimsical, and also had an interactive element that would invite engagement, such as implied seating or climbing structures.
- Arts Council Member Tina Suszynski agreed with the consensus thus far that color, whimsy, and reference to the natural world were appealing characteristics for this project, although she also noted that colored powder coating might be difficult to maintain over time. She suggested that it might be beneficial to commission multiple pieces that could be distributed throughout the park, and noted that there were artists in the running with work at a price point that made that possible. She also expressed disappointment that a particular artist had not scored high enough for tonight's consideration, noting that this artist had really done the homework in terms of considering the site and context that GVAHC was looking for. The thoughtfulness

and preparedness of artists' submissions is something she felt should be an important factor as the Arts Council considered the remaining options.

- Arts Council Vice Chair Stephani Davis shared that, when she thinks of Greenwood Village, she thinks of families and children, and agreed with Arts Council Chair Anne Cashman's assessment that whatever piece is chosen should have broad appeal and ideally an interactive element. She echoed several member's preference for color and whimsy, as well as reference to nature. Memorability/recognizability are important considerations for her, as she envisions children not necessarily knowing the park by name but rather as "the park with the [descriptor] statue," with the artwork factoring prominently in their childhood memories.*
- Arts Council Member Zoe Hochsadt stated that she would prefer one larger statement piece to a series of smaller works.*
- Parks Project Manager Josh Morin did not wish to influence the group's discussion, noting that he was in attendance primarily as a resource should any questions about the other Carson Park improvements arise. He did however mention that Mark Taylor, who is serving as the landscape architect for the project and who participated in the online jury process, often favors public art that also serves a functional purpose. As an example of this, he shared that the design for back of the pavilion has been updated to include a short series of concrete steps that visitors may use to sit and overlook the pond, and that the pavilion will be flanked by 2 blank spaces that might make good sites for artwork placement. With this in mind, GVAHC members decided that updated schematics should be provided to the selected finalists.*
- It should be noted that Arts Council Member Ilena Norton was not present for this part of the meeting, so her thoughts were not recorded.*

*The selection process proceeded with another presentation of the 10 artists up for consideration, lead by Cultural Arts Administrative Assistant Cheri Awalt. Each artist was brought up on the screen, and the group was asked for a show of hands to indicate who felt that the artist in question should be moved forward to the next round, with 3 hands raised being the minimum required. After just 1 round of this, 3 artists remained, which all present at that time agreed would be the top 3 finalists who would be invited to present at the GVAHC meeting in April. **It was also decided that, since an extra hour had been added to March's meeting for further artist consideration that was no longer needed, the Arts Council would meet at Carson Park at 4:30PM on March 19th 2026 for a site visit, and conduct their meeting at City Hall afterwards.***

6. STAFF UPDATES

A. Film Series (2026-50)

Cultural Arts Manager Lisa Neeper reviewed the marketing efforts that staff have put into the Winter Film Screenings, which included printed flyers and postcards distributed locally, email outreach, an event page created on Facebook and boosted posts across Facebook and Instagram, a full-page write-up and ads in the Greenwood Village monthly newsletter in January and/or February, and listing on the Curtis website. She shared that even with all these efforts, the first film had a total of 15 attendees (mostly GVAHC members and staff), and the next screening, which is to take place on Wednesday March 4th 2026, had only sold 2 tickets prior to the meeting. The group strategized what could be done to improve attendance, and it was decided that ticketing would be altered so that children aged 12 and under could come as long as they were joined by an adult with a full-price ticket purchase. Staff are to make the necessary changes and put the promo out via email and social media.

B. Financial Summary Report (2026-51)

Cultural Arts Manager Lisa Neeper shared the updated Financial Summary Report for February 2026.

C. Curtis Attendance 2023-2025 (2026-52)

In reference to Arts Council Member Kathleen Smith's request for metrics at the January GVAHC meeting, Cultural Arts Manager Lisa Neeper compiled an attendance report encompassing all exhibitions, classes and events hosted by the Curtis Center for 2023, 2024 and 2025. The graph showed an upward trend across all 3 years, with attendance growing 15% from 2023 to 2024, 3.0% from 2024 to 2025, and 18% overall from 2023 to 2025.

D. Community Events Calendar (2026-53)

The Arts Council reviewed upcoming events on the Community Events Calendar, including Plate, Paper, Press, the upcoming exhibiton for the Colorado Month of Print in March, to be followed by the Western Federation of Watercolor Biennial in May, and the Mobile Concert Series in June.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:26PM.

Signed:

Clare Langley Hawthorne, Chair

Date

Attest:

Cheri Awalt, Administrative Assistant

Date