



Adams County Cultural Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 23, 2025
5:00 PM
Virtual

- I. Call Meeting to Order – Acting chair, Joyce Downing, called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.
- II. Roll Call – Zoe Ocampo
Present: Joyce Downing, Emily Burr, James Towle, Aaron Vega, Ericka Hernandez,
Absent: Lawrence Dunn
(Resigned members – Megan Hartline, Jesse Martinez)
Participants in Attendance: SCFD Program Officer, Dana Manyothane;
Adams County Staff, Zoe Ocampo
- III. Approval of the Agenda - Motion to approve the agenda by James Towle, seconded by Aaron Vega; No oppose – motion passed.
- IV. New Business Items
 - a. 2025 Officer Elections – Joyce Downing
 - i. Chair
 1. Joyce Downing nominated herself to be chair. No other nominations.
 - ii. Vice Chair
 1. Joyce Downing nominated Aaron Vega to be Vice Chair; with acceptance. No other nominations.
 - iii. Secretary
 1. Joyce Downing nominated Ericka Hernandez to be Secretary; with acceptance. No other nominations.
 - iv. Motion made to approve the following 2025 administration: Chair - Joyce Downing, Vice Chair – Aaron Vega, Treasurer – Ericka Hernandez, by Emily Burr. Seconded by James Towle; No opposed – motion passed.
 - b. 2025 Process – Joyce Downing & Dana Manyothane

- i. Discussion prompted for “Application Readers”, as approved at the 2024 Council Retreat.
- ii. Suggestion to move forward with 2025 Study Session process without “application readers” (Proposal 1) but to keep the other approved change – to review applications by organizations size (budget), and to review GOS first (Proposals 2a and 2b).
 - 1. Motion made for 2025 Study Session Process to keep 2a and 2b and remove 1a made by Aaron Vega. Seconded by Emily Burr; No opposed – motion passed.

V. Other Business

- a. Next Council meeting is March 20. In person at the Waymire Dome at Riverdale Regional Park. Dinner at 5pm, the meeting starts at 5:30.
- b. New member applicants interviewed by the BOCC Wednesday the 29th and will be appointed in time for the March 20 meeting.
- c. Discussion regarding the number of Study Sessions. Given the expected number of applications and the level of work on the Council, the Council recommended adding a Study Session and putting a break in between. This will push other calendar items back.
 - i. New calendar to be reviewed at next meeting.

VI. General SCFD Updates – Dana Manyothane

- a. SCFD Board Meetings – Last Meeting: Thursday, November 21 at 1:00 pm. The board voted to approve the slate of officers for 2025: Chairperson, Jacki Cooper Melmed; Vice-Chair, Councilperson Jamie Torres; Secretary, Dan Brown; Treasurer, Suzanne Crawford. Thurs. January 16, 2025, in-person Board planning session. Next Meeting; Thurs. February 27, 2025, regular board meeting.
- b. SCFD Revenue Report: The October 2024 SCFD sales and use tax revenue was \$7,411,456.83. The November 2024 SCFD sales and use tax revenue was \$6,947,744.35. The 2024 year-to-date (YTD) sales and use tax revenue is \$ \$78,001,187.63. This compares to the YTD 2023 sales and use tax revenue of \$78,344,500.10. The variance is (\$343,312.47), a 0.44% decrease in YTD 2024 over YTD 2023.
- c. Staffing Update: SCFD Director, Deborah Jordy, announced she will transition to a senior advisor role in June 2025. The SCFD board will begin the search for a new executive director in the coming months.
- d. Tier III Important Dates:

- i. Wednesday, February 12: 2025 Tier III final grant report deadline
- ii. Tuesday, February 18: SCFD Day at the Capitol
- iii. Wednesday, March 5: 2025 multi-county grant applications deadline.
- iv. Wednesday March 12: 2025 single-county grant application deadline.
- e. Cultural Council Training: SCFD will be hosting an Unconscious Bias training for all CCC members on February 20th from 4-6pm. Emails went out to register for this highly recommended workshop to all county councils from their respective program officer.
- f. Holiday Office Closure: Monday, February 17
- g. All new eligible organizations shared with the group. Melody Musical Theater Group (AD); Colorado Brass (AR); Denver Field Ornithologists (JE); The Spark (BO); Muse Performance Space (BO); Safonia (DE); Sand Creek Regional Greenway (DE); The Word, A Storytelling Sanctuary (DE); Theatre Artibus (DE); Words to Power (DE); Denver Biennial of the Americas (DE); Ballet Melange (DE); Union Hall (DE); Presenting Denver (DE); Rocky Mountain Wildlife Alliance (DO); Foothills Community Choir (JE); Colorado Watercolor Society (JE); Atomic Theatre (JE)

VII. Adams County Updates – Zoe Ocampo

- a. Adams County welcomed new Commissioners, Kathy Henson and Julie Mullica to the BOCC, and the re-elected, Lynn Baca. Commissioners Eva Henry (scfd board appointee) and Chaz Tedesco have termed out.
- b. Riverdale Regional Park is under construction for the foreseeable future. The work is largely infrastructure and will include park improvements. You can find more information here: adcogov.org/rrp-improvements.
- c. Cultural Arts Division Updates
 - i. Percentage for the Arts 1 full year!
 - ii. Starting to present on county arts programs
 - 1. CCI Summit
 - 2. Americans for the Arts Conference (AFTAcon)
 - 3. Juntos Equity & Justice
 - iii. Projects this year –
 - 1. Spring installations: Water Tank Mural, 58th St. Mural, Coroner & Probation
 - 2. Integration into events
 - 3. Launching the call for entry for the next Poet Laureate – Jan 31

- iv. Posting a seasonal position (10-month) for a Cultural Arts Assistant
- v. Sign up for the Artfully Adams Newsletter
- vi. Council invited to join Adams County at the Colorado Business Committee for the Arts Awards Luncheon

VIII. Public Comment

- a. Max Waters with Thornton Middle School attended the meeting; seeking the SCC and school funding

IX. Adjourn – Joyce Downing adjourned the meeting at 6:11 PM