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**MINUTES OF THE SPRINGDALE ART REVIEW BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, AT 12:00 PM  
AT THE CANYON COMMUNITY CENTER, 126 LION BOULEVARD, SPRINGDALE, UTAH**

**The meeting convened at 12:00 pm.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Board Members Jack Burns, Lisa Benham, Mike Alltucker, Jim Walshe, Kathy LaFave (arrived 12:08 pm)

**PRESENT:** Director of Community Development Thomas Dansie, Principal Planner Niall Connolly, Town Clerk Aren Emerson, recording, Mayor Barbara Bruno

**Approval of Agenda**

**Jim Walshe made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Lisa Benham.**

**Vote on the Motion:**

**Walshe: Ave**

**Benham: Ave**

**Burns: Ave**

**LaFave: Ave**

**Alltucker: Ave**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**General Announcements**

Mr. Connolly announced an Emergency Preparedness Fair on September 16 at 4:00 pm, and a Community Development "two-cent" event on September 24 at 9:00 am.

Mr. Burns said he wanted as much public input at the meeting as possible. He suggested a staff presentation, followed by public comment, and then discussion by the Art Review Board. Staff arranged a microphone for public comment.

**A. Discussion / Non-Action Item**

**1. Discussion About the Town Potentially Creating a Public Art Plan and Subsequent Call for Public Art**

Principal Planner Niall Connolly said the Art Review Board had talked about a potential public art plan at a previous meeting, and had indicated appetite to adopt a plan for the Town. Mr. Connolly presented a public art plan template drafted using public art plans from around the State and other parts of the Country. He said locations in Town appropriate for public art would need to be identified, and appropriate types of public art determined. He said the template listed potential sources of funding, and addressed ongoing maintenance and eventual deaccessioning.

Mr. Burns thanked Mr. Connolly for his work on the template, and said he believed it was a good start. Mr. Burns suggested discussing whether the art plan would be limited to Town-owned property, or more inclusive.

Mr. Walshe said the template was clear and uncomplicated, and suggested establishing the art plan and dealing with issues as they came up. Mr. Alltucker suggested the Review Board needed direction from the Town Council regarding what was wanted, budget, and timeline, before the Review Board got down into the weeds.

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Mr. Burns said he believed the Art Review Board was in place because of previous discussions by the Town Council about public art. He said he believed the current direction was in keeping with what the Council had in mind. Mr. Burns emphasized the Art Review Board needed a framework in place to review public art submissions. Mr. Alltucker said he would hate for the Art Review Board to do a bunch of work, and for the Town Council to then say they were not interested. Mr. Burns said the Council had indicated to the Art Review Board to look at something like the public art plan template, and said anything recommended by the Review Board would go to Town Council for final approval.

Mayor Bruno said putting together a public art plan was exactly what the Council wanted the Review Board to do.

Ms. LaFave said she agreed with the Art Review Board creating something with teeth, but not too complicated. She said she had spent time driving around and looking at places people might be able to see and enjoy public art, and suggested the corner of the Hampton Inn property by the public paid parking lot and grassy open space. Ms. LaFave said she believed the Art Review Board should be open to considering such spaces.

Mr. Walshe said he drove from the Town gateway up to the park, and suggested the Springdale sign as a possible location for art. He suggested the park and grassy areas around the Community Center as possibilities, and suggested something colorful to mark trailheads.

Mr. Burns said he agreed with Ms. LaFave's suggestion to keep the public art plan short and simple. He asked the Art Review Board if anything stood out as missing from the proposed template. Mr. Burns asked if the template could be shared as a Google Doc so members of the Art Review Board could add to the document when not together as a group. Mr. Connolly said he could share the template as a Google Doc.

Mr. Burns suggested the Review Board address plan vision and goals. Ms. LaFave said she thought caution should be included in the vision and goals. She questioned how the Art Review Board would guide public art installations to be in character with the Town's surroundings. As a suggested vision statement, Mr. Alltucker read aloud a vision statement from a plan he had read previously: "to establish guidelines for the implementation of public art policy, including selection, purchase, placement, and maintenance of works of public art."

Mr. Alltucker asked what would be considered public art. Ms. LaFave said to her the description would include permanent physical art installations, not performance art. She referred to Palm Springs, California, as an example of a community with public art installations. Ms. LaFave said the idea of public art both thrilled and frightened her. Mr. Alltucker said the definition needed to be clear. Mr. Burns said the definition provided by Mr. Connolly in the template was a good start.

Mr. Walshe asked if applications would be reviewed by the Art Review Board, who would then make a recommendation to the Council. He suggested public input should be involved in the process. Mr. Burns confirmed the Review Board would review applications and make recommendation to the Council, and recommended public input happen at the Town Council level.

Mr. Alltucker read aloud from a plan he had read: "In addition to encouraging the familiar forms of sculpture, mosaics, and murals, public art can be expressed as a variety of artistic media and approaches. Public art could include artist designed play equipment, street furniture, bridges, gates, paving patterns, lighting, landscape treatments, and water features."

Ms. LaFave commented that a lot of effort had gone into the Town's streetscape and appearance, and said the rusted steel and natural sandstone combination that was used in the Town park, and had extended to other areas of Springdale, was artistic. She suggested having the streetscape fit with the natural surroundings, and highlighting art here and there in a tasteful way. She said she would not want to encourage water features, considering the desert environment and focus on water conservation. Ms. LaFave commented that everyone's definition of art was different. She said Springdale wanted to be an arts community in a tasteful way. Mr. Burns said he thought everyone on the Art Review Board was familiar with Springdale and had a good sense of what was appropriate to maintain a sense of place, working in concert with the goals and objectives of the General Plan.

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Mr. Connolly said the proposed template defined Public Art as "any visual work of art displayed for two weeks or more in an open publicly owned area, on the exterior of a public facility, inside any Town owned facility and areas designated as public areas, or on private property, if the work is installed or financed either wholly or in part with Town funds, or with grants procured by the Town." The template included the following definition of Work of Art: "includes, but is not limited to, the art forms of sculpture, monument, mural, fresco, relief, fountain, banner, benches, architectural furniture, and performance art facilities, including the art mediums of weaving, carving, painting, assemblage, collage, casting, and sculpting." Mr. Connolly said the definition of work of art was broad, and the definition of public art specified art funded as least in part by the Town. He said in most cases, art on public property had been funded at least in part by public funds.

Ms. Benham expressed confidence in the definitions provided by Mr. Connolly, and with the Board's discernment. She said she was more concerned about the amount of time the Board might spend worrying about what might sneak in.

Mr. Connolly said the Board would deal with responses to calls for art put out by the Town, and make recommendations to the Council for final approval. He said art on private property would need to comply with Town zoning standards. Mr. Burns asked what would happen if a business or private property owner responded to a call for art from the Town with an offer to use their property for an installation. Mr. Connolly said if a private property owner wanted to partner with the Town, and the Town provided funding in any way, the Town would have a role in selecting the art. Mr. Walshe asked what would happen to the sculpture/artwork if the property was subsequently sold. He said ownership would need to be clearly defined if publicly funded art were placed on private property.

Mr. Walshe asked if the Town would have funding to purchase art, and referred to an upcoming plein air event in town. He said he hoped there would be plans somewhere down the line for a museum in Springdale. Mr. Burns suggested adding such ideas to the Google Doc so they did not get lost. Ms. LaFave asked Mr. Burns, as a member of the Town Council, if he thought the Council would find room in the annual budget for a \$10,000 line item for the purchase of art. Mr. Burns said he would personally support such a line item. Ms. LaFave suggested \$10,000 as a minimum to budget annually for the purchase of public art. Ms. Benham said she believed between 5% and 10% was a standard amount to plan for ongoing maintenance of art.

Mr. Walshe suggested the Art Review Board move forward with the proposed public art plan template, provide a report to the Town Council to keep them informed, and spend more time on the details after the Council indicated support. Ms. LeFave said she did not see the point of creating a guiding document if there would not be funding for public art. She said she wanted an idea of how much they would be dealing with to know in what direction they could go. Mr. Burns said the question of future funding did not preclude the Art Review Board from discussing the proposed document.

The Council discussed funding possibilities listed in the public art plan template. Mr. Connolly commented that impact fees could not be used for art in Utah and needed to be removed from the list. Mr. Dansie said the Art Review Board could apply for a portion of the Town's annual RAP Tax. Mayor Bruno explained the RAP Tax revenue application process. Mayor Bruno said she did not believe the Town Council would need to approve art selected by the Art Review Board, since the Art Review Board was appointed for that purpose.

A majority of the Art Review Board indicated support for adding the vision statement suggested by Mr. Alltucker to the Public Art Plan. Mr. Burns said he wanted the Art Review Board to be as inclusive of the residents in the process as possible, including with the selection of appropriate locations for public art. Mr. Burns suggested providing a place on the Google Doc to serve as a "parking lot" for ideas.

Jan Passek, Springdale resident, said the Art Review Board needed an outline established before getting into the specifics, and said the proposed outline had space for more details.

The Art Review Board discussed deaccession. Ms. LaFave said she liked the proposed definitions of public art and works of art. Responding to a question from Mr. Walshe, Mr. Dansie confirmed the Town was already in possession of works of art that should be referenced in the Public Art Plan. Mayor Bruno pointed out that security needed to be a consideration with acquisition of any art.

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Ms. LaFave said she wanted the Town to have the ability to place public art on private property, with appropriate documentation and protection. She said she believed there were fabulous locations for art in Town that were on private property. Mr. Walshe said he agreed.

Mr. Connolly said he would share the document through Google Docs, and create another shared document to serve as a parking lot for ideas.

The Review Board discussed scheduling a group tour of Springdale to identify potential locations for public art. Ms. LaFave suggested the initial concentration should be along SR-9 for visibility. Mr. Walshe suggested that inside public buildings should also be considered. Mr. Burns suggested there were potential locations of public gathering that were off SR-9. Mayor Bruno suggested the group use shuttle buses for a tour of Springdale to identify potential locations. Mr. Walshe said he would be out of town for several weeks, but had already provided photographs of suggested locations.

A tour of the town with the Art Review Board as a group would constitute a public meeting, and the public would be welcome to join. Mr. Connolly said staff would verify details and requirements of holding a public meeting in the form of a tour. The Review Board discussed possible dates for the tour, and settled on Tuesday, October 14, at noon.

The Review Board scheduled their next meeting for Monday, October 27, at noon. Mr. Connolly provided an update on a previous action of the Art Review Board regarding Zion Adventures.

## B. Consent Agenda

### 1. Approval of Minutes from July 21, 2025

Kathy LaFave made a motion to approve the minutes from July 21, 2025. The motion was seconded by Lisa Benham.

Vote on the Motion:

Walshe: Aye

Benham: Aye

Burns: Aye

LaFave: Aye

Alltucker: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

## C. Adjourn

Mike Alltucker made a motion to adjourn at 1:25 pm. The motion was seconded by Kathy LaFave.

Vote on the Motion:

Walshe: Aye

Benham: Aye

Burns: Aye

LaFave: Aye

Alltucker: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

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Aren Emerson, Town Clerk

APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

A recording of the public meeting is available by accessing the Town's YouTube channel at  
<https://www.youtube.com/@SpringdaleTownPublicMeetings>.

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