

CITY OF NORTH SALT LAKE
ARTS COMMITTEE MEETING
CITY HALL 10 EAST CENTER STREET, NORTH SALT LAKE
SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

FINAL

PRESENT: Rachel Chase, Chair
Heather Hendrix
Heidi Smoot, Vice Chair
Camille Thorpe
Suzette Jackson, City Council

EXCUSED: Tori Beck

STAFF PRESENT: David Frandsen, Assistant City Manager; Sherrie Pace, Community Development Director.

OTHERS PRESENT: Gentry Holbrook, Lori Seppi, Reuben Wolsey, Jean Montanaro, residents.

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Rachel Chase, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. She invited those present to introduce themselves.

2. CITIZEN COMMENT

There were no comments.

3. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC ART LOCATIONS IN HATCH PARK-MIKE
WONENBERG, G-BROWN DESIGN

Sherrie Pace introduced Mike Wonenberg as the landscape architect with G-Brown Design designing Hatch Park. Mike Wonenberg presented the park design, highlighting potential art locations including a prominent spot for a large chair sculpture near the intersection of Main and Center Street for visibility and ties to the mural.

Rachel Chase inquired about distance from the street. Mike Wonenberg stated it would be about 12 feet from the turn lane, with plants and curb adding buffer.

Reuben Wolsey discussed orientation for photos with the mural background.

Heidi Smoot noted visual clutter from electrical boxes. Mike Wonenberg suggested wraps on boxes.

Heidi Smoot emphasized the "hangout factor," questioning grassy areas for community use and suggesting the chair in grass near trees for interaction. Camille Thorpe agreed on need for hangout spaces.

Mike Wonenberg noted grass areas and considered adjustments like widening planters or removing a tree.

Suzette Jackson suggested multiple chairs.

Reuben Wolsey liked a tea party setup for kids.

Rachel Chase proposed one by the road to invite visitors.

Mike Wonenberg outlined other sites at path termini, playground beds, and water features, suggesting sizes like 12x12 pads and kinetic art.

Heidi Smoot stressed budget unknowns for multiple installations. Sherrie Pace noted need for pads and conduits now, even if art was added later.

Sherrie Pace discussed temporary use of undisturbed park areas during construction, possibly for community gardens.

Suzette Jackson noted lack of detailed budgets.

Heidi Smoot inquired about funding from RDA and bonds.

Rachel Chase suggested donations with recognition plaques.

Committee Member Rachel Chase moved to recommend to the City Council the placement for the chair sculpture be near to the pavilion in front of the planter. Committee Member Camille Thorpe seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Committee Members Chase, Hendrix, Smoot, and Thorpe. Committee Member Tori Beck was excused and not present for the vote.

4. MURAL PROGRAM UPDATE

Sherrie Pace reported on mural preparation and progress at the building on the corner of Main and Center Streets. She indicated the grant application was submitted and likely would be approved by October.

Heidi Smoot expressed her worry about vandalism. The Committee discussed vandalism deterrents including anti-graffiti coating, trail camera for time lapse progress, soft lighting and police presence.

Sherrie Pace noted the mural could convince other owners for future sites for additional murals. Committee members praised the progress, art, and merging designs.

5. NSL READS-SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Camille Thorpe welcomed and introduced Lori Seppi and Gentry Holbrook who assisted with the NSL Reads events in the past.

Lori Seppi explained NSL Reads origins in 2014 to unite community through books, with annual events, writing contests mirroring authors' themes, and school visits. Gentry Holbrook detailed 2026 plans: fantasy theme announced January 2nd, entries due February 26th, event March 5th at City Hall, with flyers and free books distributed at back-to-school night.

Sherrie Pace asked how the Committee can help. Lori Seppi requested volunteers for activities at the event and judging of the writing competition (30-40 entries typically). Gentry Holbrook suggested a Winterfest booth to help promote it.

Sherrie Pace wondered about a little library in Hatch Park. Reuben Wosley suggested using tree wood from the trees that would be removed from the current park. Gentry Holbrook proposed a train-themed design with sections for ages, noting the need for a steward. There was a discussion about the possibility of using one of the art spaces in the park to create a little library.

6. ARTS COMMITTEE GOALS & PROPOSED PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

Sherrie Pace presented the following goals and programs in the Committee's purview:

- Mural Program
 - Identify buildings with willing owners
 - Select Jury
 - Mural Experts
- Public Art Locations
 - Hatch Park
 - Town Center/City Hall
 - City Entrance Monuments
- Programs
 - NSL Reads
 - Photo Contest
 - Art Exhibits

Sherrie Pace mentioned the Committee should begin identifying other art locations beyond Hatch Park and could assist with the photo contest judging this year. She shared St. George's Art Around the Corner website for leasing sculptures (costs \$5,000-\$10,000+) and suggested some Committee members may want to attend in April of 2026.

David Frandsen briefly discussed non-profit fundraising models.

Heidi Smoot liked the idea of rotating art; and the dragon sculpture sparked interest. She also noted budget constraints.

Sherrie Pace suggested requesting budget funds for sculptures, travel to St. George, wraps, and a patriotic painting contest for America 250. The Committee brainstormed ideas for art exhibits and contests that could be done in 2026. Suzette Jackson stressed advance advertising for any of the events or contests.

Sherrie Pace proposed the Committee prepare a wish list to recommend to the City Council during the November 5th work session that might include things like use of the event center for music recitals on a regular basis, along with desired budget funds to accomplish some of the Committee goals. She explained once the list of goals was complete it could be prioritized and include cost estimates for recommendation to the City Council. She mentioned a budget amendment may be necessary to support the priorities for Fiscal Year 2026 since no funds are currently allocated other than for the mural program.

Sherrie Pace reviewed some of the tax funding sources of the City. She noted the City Council had expressed one of its priorities was for City beautification so the Council may desire to allocate funds to help in these areas. Heidi Smoot suggested starting small.

Sherrie Pace reported that a member of the City Council had suggested the idea of big chairs in every park and indicated perhaps a new chair could be commissioned annually. She noted the Council was excited to see the model chair when it was introduced. She encouraged the Committee to prepare ideas and estimate costs for the goals and priorities that would be presented to the Council.

Jean Montanaro agreed to estimate tea party chair costs. The Committee also discussed the possibility of putting a sculpture of a dragon in a roundabout at Orchard Drive and Eagleridge Drive to replace the broken digital sign there currently.

7. PREPARATION FOR ANNUAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Rachel Chase proposed third Mondays for meetings to accommodate Tori Beck on October 20, November 17, December 15.

Sherrie Pace noted holiday conflicts were often on the third Monday of each month. The Committee agreed to revisit the best dates for meetings again in January and hold them on the third Monday of the remaining months of 2025.

Suzette Jackson mentioned November 17 would be a Truth in Taxation Hearing for the South Davis Recreation District so she would not be able to attend the Arts Committee meeting that same evening.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Arts Committee minutes of August 13, 2025 were reviewed and approved.

Committee Member Heidi Smoot moved to approve the minutes of August 13, 2025, as written. Committee Member Heather Hendrix seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Committee Members Chase, Hendrix, Smoot, and Thorpe. Committee Member Tori Beck was excused.

9. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The foregoing was approved by the Arts Committee of the City of North Salt Lake on October 20, 2025 by unanimous vote of all members present.


Rachel Chase, Chair


Wendy Page, City Recorder

