

VILLAGE OF GURNEE ARTS COMMISSON MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Monday, May 12, 2025

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Chambers at the Gurnee Village Hall located at
325 N. O'Plaine Road, Gurnee, IL

1. Call to Order

- A** The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm with opening remarks given by Mayor Tom Hood to welcome people to the committee.
- B** In Attendance: Matt Trujillo, Beth Keslinke, Lynn Granstrom, Kirsten Saunders, Amy Kostadinov, April Colette, Angela Baldwin, Jason Wilbur, Jay Stuckwisch, Roger Eaton, Randy Blaser, Greg Alderson, Manny Aguero, Lei Mangaran, Selene Cortes, Janelle Rominski, David Narens, Sage Ramirez, Ron Arden
- C** Officials in Attendance: Mayor Tom Hood

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

- A** There was no public comment.

4. Welcome

A Introduction of new Co-Chairs

- Matt introduced Lynn Granstrom and Beth Keslinke as co-chairs for the Arts Commission. Lynn Granstrom is currently the Executive Director of the Gurnee Chamber of Commerce, and Beth Keslinke is an art teacher at Warren Township High school. Matt added that he will be the staff liaison for the Arts Commission.

B Group introductions

- Members of the Arts commission went around the room and introduced themselves and shared their art-related experiences.

5. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

A February 27, 2025

- Beth made a motion to approve the minutes and Ron made a motion to second it. The group approved the minutes.

B March 10, 2025

- Roger made a motion to approve the minutes and Lynn made a motion to second it. The group approved the minutes.

6. New Business

A Upcoming Summer Events and Programs to participate in

- Matt discussed upcoming related programs including: Arts

Link North and the Gurnee Days Community Art Show.

- It was mentioned that Visit Lake County is doing a photo contest.
- Janelle mentioned that her new photography studio will be hosting some events.

B New ideas for the Arts Commission

- Matt mentioned the importance of starting to look for events and programs that the Arts Commission can participate in.
- There was a question about the Village's involvement in the Park District's programming. Matt clarified that the Park District is expanding its cultural arts programming and is seeking instructors. The Village does not create programs for the Park District, but there is potential for future collaboration on new events and programs.
- Beth announced that the National Art Honor Society will be hosting a program this year to connect students with professional artists. More information will be provided soon.
- Matt discussed the opportunity to organize a networking event for the Arts Commission. Ideas were shared for this event, and the group began looking at potential dates for this summer.
- After further consideration, the group decided to postpone the creation of a new event. Instead, they will focus on developing a mission and vision statement first. It was agreed that having these statements would help ensure that future events are meaningful and aligned with the group's purpose. Launching an event prematurely might result in it appearing rushed or chaotic.
- The group decided to place the discussion of mission and vision statements on the agenda for the next meeting. Matt asked everyone to send their ideas to him by May 30, and this topic will be further discussed at the next meeting.

C Partnership Ideas

- The group decided to create a mission statement before working on any partnership ideas. This was tabled.

D Other

- Jason suggested discussing a communications strategy in addition to the mission and vision statements.
- The group asked Matt to share their contact information with each other.

- A potential event idea—meeting the art commission members—was proposed as a possible early activity to take place once the mission and vision statements are created.
- Matt mentioned that the group will be meeting this summer, and in the fall, voting members will be chosen to serve on the Arts Commission.

7. Public Comment

A There was no public comment.

8. Adjournment

A Randy made a motion to adjourn the meeting and David made a motion to second it. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm.

Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities are required to contact Austin Pollack, Assistant to Village Administrator, at (847) 599-7500 promptly to allow the Village to make reasonable accommodations for those persons. www.gurnee.il.us