

Minutes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission
City of Jasper, Indiana
November 4, 2025

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, at Jasper City Hall Council Chambers. Roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present in Person**: Jasmine Bosler, Julie Burns, Emi Donato, Bibianna Green, Corie Eckerle, Linda Kahle, Heath Kluemper, Beth Seidl, and Selena Vonderheide. **Non-Voting Student Representative**: Allison Woodruff. **Observed Remotely via Zoom**: None. **Commission Members Absent**: Darla Blazey and Pat Thyen. **Staff Members Present**: Kyle Rupert, Emily Peak, Casey Uebelhor, and Liz Book. **City Attorney**: Renee Kabrick. **Guests in attendance**: Mayor Dean Vonderheide. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Julie Burns moved to approve the minutes of October's meeting. Corie Eckerle seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

City Financial Statement

Beth Seidl moved to approve the claims as presented. Bibianna Green seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

Donation Report

Beth Seidl moved to accept the restricted-use donations of \$200 for programming and \$60,000 for future stage light replacement at the Jasper Arts Center. Jasmine Bosler seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

Old Business

New Business

- Kyle asked permission to junk a Square Register POS that is no longer being supported or patched, asset tag number 103180. A new register was purchased to replace it. Julie Burns made a motion to junk the Square Register. Linda Kahle seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

Director's Report/Performing Arts

Kyle reported:

- Kyle shared that there is a lot of activity going on in the department. There have been multiple policy conversations with the Arts and other City departments. Additional conversations have been made about programming decisions for next year.
- Gallery visits are up 26% over last year.
- *Beehive* returned after a two-year hiatus. Ten vendors participated, and he received surveys from five vendors. For the most part, vendors would return; most were happy with the sales made, but overall, they would like more foot traffic.
- *Tom Papa*'s performance has been rescheduled to November 16. Due to a flight delay, he was unable to get to Jasper in time for the performance. Kyle and Liz updated the website, ticketing platform, and social media. All patrons with an email address on file received an email informing them of the rescheduled date, and patrons who did not have an email address were called. Additionally, patrons who lived outside of the area were called. Kyle wants to look into a calling service for auto-calling. A question was raised about whether the ticketing platform could send out text messages. Liz explained that the system would allow it if patrons opted in, but Jasper Arts would be billed for each text sent.
- Kyle shared updated usage numbers for the month.

Building and Structure Report

Kyle reported for Danny:

- The landscaping at the Jasper Arts Center was updated and installed by Brescher Landscaping. The landscaping now continues around the side of the building to create a more finished look. Neutral rock was installed to allow flexibility for coordinating future exterior paint colors.
- The original lobby doors at the Jasper Arts Center from 1983 have been replaced by Keusch Glass.
- Danny is waiting on contracts from Astro Security to install a new fire panel and security cameras. Once the contracts are completed, Danny will work with Astro to schedule the work.

- The City held its Open Enrollment meeting at the Jasper Arts Center. Danny assisted with the setup and technical elements of the meeting.
- *Damn Tall Buildings* will be held on Saturday, November 15, and *Tom Papa* will perform on Sunday, November 16. On the morning of the 16th, Danny and Technical Assistant Juan will remove the Backstage Series risers and chairs and set up for Tom Papa.
- A leak that has been repaired multiple times in one of the gallery clear-story windows leaked during the last big storm that blew through. K and K Doors repaired the leak before and recommended reaching out to Keusch Glass to look into it.
- Jasper Public Library maintenance worker, Jason, has replaced the bulbs in all the bollards in the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center parking lot. The new bulbs are brighter and should last longer than the original bulbs that were installed.

Visual Arts Report

Emily reported:

- *Hispanic Heritage Month* features a community ofrenda created in partnership with ALASI, the Jasper Public Library, and other community organizations. The exhibit was created for the community by the community. She encouraged everyone to bring in pictures of their loved ones and place them on the ofrenda.
- The *Visual Arts Committee* exhibit opens on Thursday.
- *Jonpaul Smith*'s exhibit closed last week, and his artwork was picked up on Sunday. She received great feedback from the artist about how smoothly the exhibition process has been.
- She read to 3rd-grade students at Jasper Elementary and told them about Jasper Arts.
- There are two new sessions of clay classes.
- *Call for Artists* applications for 2027 are now being accepted. The deadline to submit is March 2026, and it is open to graduate students and professional artists. The Visual Arts Committee will review applications.
- First Thursday Open Reception is on Thursday.

Education Report

Casey reported:

- For Tour of Opportunity, Casey hosted a group of forty-plus students who had an interest in the Arts as a career. Several of the students were first-time visitors.
- *Mike Wiley* presented “Tired Souls” for middle school students. Casey received great feedback from the schools, and she received comments that the teachers would love to have Mike back for another show.
- Camp Create Fall Break had 9 campers, and David Hockney was the featured artist for this session. The campers participated in lots of workshops and activities. There was a mix of first-time and return campers. The campers were also able to use Jasper Arts’ iPads to create digital art.
- Jasper Arts, in collaboration with Dubois County Pride, hosted a Poetry and Pride night. Seven poets attended the workshop and shared their work.
- She shared that roughly 100 people attended the Dia de Muertos celebration on November 1. A representative for the Indiana Mexican Consulate was also in attendance. She thanked the various organizations and community groups that made the community exhibit possible: South Texas Human Rights Center, Latinos Unidos - Jasper High School, Los Raiders – Southridge High School, Cultura Conectada – Southridge Middle School, Jasper-Dubois Public Libraries, 4th Grade Huntingburg Elementary Dual Language Program, Internship Program – Perry Central, City of Jasper, Angel Decoraciones y Vestidos, and Tienda Moroleon. The exhibit also features 44 bilingual poems written by 4th-grade Huntingburg Elementary Dual Language Program students. Several students read their poems at the Dia de Muertos celebration.
- There are several holiday workshops planned for November and December. She will start planning additional workshops for the winter.
- Two field trips are scheduled for November.

Public Business

- Allison shared that Jasper High School Performing Arts will present *Cinderella* on November 21 & 22 at 7 PM and November 23 at 2 PM. She will be playing Cinderella’s Stepmother.

Adjournment

Jasmine Bosler moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 pm. Corie Eckerle seconded. Motion passed 9-0.
