



# CULTURAL COMMISSION

# LEE'S SUMMIT

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Cultural Commission  
*Action Letter*  
September 18, 2024

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1. **Call to Order**

Chairperson Eames called the September 18, 2024 Cultural Commission to order at 6: 04 p.m.

2. **Roll Call** – 13 members (8 needed for quorum)

**Members Present**

Chairperson Eames

Vice Chairperson Allen

Commissioner Smith

Commissioner Soucie

Commissioner Thill

Commissioner Keshner

Commissioner Chubbuck

Commissioner Flowers

**Absent**

Commissioner Townsend

Commissioner Basham

Commissioner Taylor

Commissioner Gale

Commissioner Hennequin

**Staff**

Christal Weber

Glenda Masters

Lisa Azimi

3. **Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Flowers to approve the agenda as published. The motion carried by a 8 to 0 vote (Commissioners Townsend, Basham, Taylor, Gale, and Hennequin absent).

4. **Approval of the July 24 Action Letter**

A motion was made by Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Flowers to approve the July 24, 2024 Action Letter. The motion carried by a 8 to 0 vote (Commissioners Townsend, Basham, Taylor, Gale, and Hennequin absent).

5. **Public Comments**

6. **2024/25 Work Plan**

- Review Priorities- The first action items are is to define “Culture” to serve as a mission statement for the Commission, organizing MU to visit with the Commission for a cultural asset mapping project. Ms. Masters said the MU Extension will be available to attend the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to help with cultural asset mapping. Ms. Weber said MU will facilitate the Commission through MU’s mapping framework.



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- Action 1 of defining culture can be an October meeting agenda item. Ms. Weber suggested creating a survey that creates a word map. City staff will create a survey to capture the feedback and share at the next meeting. Action 3 can be addressed in November.
- Chair Eames will talk with the History Museum Board about coming to a future Cultural Commission meeting to organize how to partner with them in accomplishing Action 2.
- Concerning the Public Art Policy and looking over the current documents, that can be done with the whole Commission, sub group, or task force. From there the Commission can take a look at what plans or policies would be good to recommend to Council. Chair Eames asked for staff to present a brief overview at a future meeting of what the policies are and then the Commission can work from there as needed.

### 7. World Cup 2026 Community Planning

- LS Community Planning Committee—World Cup is June and July 2026 with 6 games in Kansas City. Visitors could be in and around LS for 6 weeks or more, with 60% coming from outside the region. This group should talk about ideas to attract visitors to Lee's Summit. They stressed the need for folks to be trained on cultural differences, how to bridge them, and to have ambassadors to make LS welcoming. KC2026.org is the site for information. There was an informational meeting in August to identify what sectors should be involved in the community planning group. Ms. Masters said the LS Chamber wanted to find a Chair for the Lee's Summit World Cup Planning Committee and she recommended that someone from Cultural Commission participate in the group planning committee.

### 8. Downtown Market Plaza Public Art Updates

- Entry way sculpture – Officially under contract with Heath Satow.
- Murals—There are 2 mural public arts calls at the moment. One will be printed on vinyl and put on exterior of the market building. The other is a painted mural on the stairway of the parking garage that leads to the entrance of the market. It is being shared throughout the KC region. A display or interpretative opportunity is being worked on as well.

### 9. Cultural Arts Grant Process Discussion

- **Spring cycle** – Funds remain available for the FY25 Cultural Arts Grant program so staff opened a second round to accept additional applications in effort to distribute the remaining funds. Applications for this round will be due October 31. FY26 annual applications are due in January and the Cultural Commission will review grants and determine grantees.
- **Grant Opportunities (potential sub-committee formation)**— Ms. Masters gave a historical review of the current grant program and informed the Commission that it may be time to reevaluate grant making programs to serve a wider range of cultural initiatives. The Commission or a task force can think about what this grant looks like moving forward. Trying to create a new grant program or request additional funds will need to align with the City's budget timeline. For FY26 grant cycle, Ms. Masters recommended that the best option would be to change the name, modify the eligibility guidelines. Commissioner Allen suggested creating a subcommittee, regroup, assess the grant and then follow up.

Chair Eames suggesting the need to broaden the definition of the grant. When the Cultural definition is finalized it can apply to making decisions on grants. Chair Eames will visit with



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Glenda about broadening the definition, talk about timeline for council, and organize a subcommittee if needed.

Motion was made that Chair Eames can appoint a subcommittee to adapt the grant process for next year to fit the new definition of cultural which has not yet been defined. Motion was made by Commissioner Chubbock and seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion carried by a 8 to 0 vote (Commissioners Townsend, Basham, Taylor, Gale, and Hennequin absent).

### **10. Staff Reports**

Ms. Weber shared that the Human Relations Commission is getting the community to participate in Missouri Good Neighbor Week coordinated by MU Extension. Citizens are encouraged to self report and the event website. A coloring contest is open to children of all ages with prizes awarded randomly. Challenged the commission to promote the coloring contest and accept the two hand project - contact 5 people and 5 organizations. Report back at next meeting. She also mentioned Missouri Neighborhood Art Week in May with potential to partner with Wellness Commission.

Ms. Masters passed around a calendar of cultural events happening around the City. The City does have ExploreLS community calendar on the tourism website. She will update it for each meeting and create one for the year out so the Commission can have it for planning.

### **11. Commission Roundtable**

Commissioner Thill mentioned the Tourism Board is up and running and have published the job description for the Executive Director. Send interested people to the City's website and hope to have someone by end of year. Go to LSPeople.net to view the job posting.

### **12. Adjourn 7:49 pm.**