



McMahon Memorial Auditorium : Arts and Humanities Committee

**Minutes
 Monthly Meeting
 Arts and Humanities Committee
 a committee of the
 McMahon Auditorium Authority
 August 6, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.
 Carnegie Library Town Hall**

Teresa Abram
 (Chair)

Alison Offield
 (Vice Chair)

Melissa Beck
 Leah Chaffins
 Natalie McCabe
 Indie Michaels
 Darius Monroe
 Dr. Charles Owens
 Reginald Ramey
 Max Sasseen

Jason Poudrier
 Arts & Humanities
 Administrator

Andrea Morman
 Deputy Arts &
 Humanities
 Administrator

Michell Rosario
 Arts & Humanities
 Community Events &
 Outreach Coordinator

Haley Moore
 Arts & Humanities
 Digital Media &
 Records Specialist

Reagan Phillips
 Arts & Humanities
 Administrative
 Assistant

Nicholas Sasseen
 Arts & Humanities
 Technical Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL – 4:00 pm

PRESENT: Abram, Offield*, Beck, Chaffins, McCabe, Monroe, Owens, Ramey

ABSENT: Michaels, Sasseen

STAFF: Poudrier, Phillips

GUESTS: Tiffiney Dimery, Robert De Shade

VERIFY POSTING OF MEETING

Action: Verification of posting time, place, and date

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items are considered to be routine by the Arts and Humanities Committee and will be enacted with one motion. Should discussion be desired on an item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to action and considered separately.

1. Consider approving minutes from June 4, 2025.
2. Consider approving financial report for June 2025 and July 2025.

Motion by Beck to accept the minutes from June 4, 2025 and the bank reconciliation from June 2025 and July 2025. Second by Chaffins.

Beck, Chaffins, McCabe, Monroe, Owens, and Ramey voted yes. Motion carried.

CHAIR’S REPORT

3. General announcements and updates

Abram reported on the deaths of two pillars of the Lawton arts community, Troy Hamilton and Ginny O’Leary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Receive reports and take action as necessary.

4. Sub Committees

The committee reviewed the Cultural Awards and the Art Purchase Competition timeline.

Chaffins reported that James Cooper will be visiting Cameron University on August 22, 2025 at 7pm as a part of their Visiting Writers series. She reported that he will be talking about his book *Moonlit Massacre*.

BUSINESS ITEMS

5. Discuss having the International Festival Naturalization Ceremony at Hilton Garden Inn and spending up to \$300.00 on catering.

Abram and Poudrier reported that this year's naturalization ceremony reception will not be held at the Museum of the Great Plains due to a previous booking. Poudrier reported that his office reached out to the Hilton Garden Inn and they are willing to donate the space as long as the committee pays for the catering as they have a strict no outside foods policy.

*Dimery entered

Motion by Owens to move the International Festival Naturalization Ceremony at Hilton Garden Inn and spending up to \$300.00 on catering. Second by Monroe.

There was discussion on how many new citizens would be at the reception, when the reception will take place, what will happen at the reception, if the committee assists the prospective citizens in the naturalization process, and what the process is like.

Beck, Chaffins, McCabe, Monroe, Owens, and Ramey voted yes. Motion carried.

6. Discuss museum Friends of the Museum sub-grant proposal and take action as necessary.

Poudrier introduced this item. There was discussion about how long the exhibit will be at the Museum of the Great Plains, the royalty fees and the printing costs, and what will happen to the prints after the exhibit closes.

*De Shade and Offield entered

Motion by Beck to approve the subgranting request up to \$2,400 with the contingency that the prints will be available to the local public after the exhibit closes. Second by Ramey.

Beck, Chaffins, McCabe, Monroe, Owens, and Ramey voted yes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS – none

NEW BUSINESS – none

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poudrier announced that if the committee had any events or knew of any events and wanted them featured on the Arts and Humanities website, to email his office. He also announced that the Carnegie Library Town Hall is almost back in working order after the storm on April 26, 2025. He also announced that the main stairs in the front are almost completely renovated, and he is hoping to start renting the building for public use soon.

McCabe announced that auditions for the next Cameron University Theatre production, Unity 1918, will take place on August 19 and 20, and the performances will be the first weekend in October.

Monroe announced that his organization, Bigger Than Music, will host their 5th annual Praise Party in the Park on Saturday, September 20th, at Elmer Thomas Park. He invited the committee to come out and enjoy.

ADJOURNMENT – 4:39 pm