



Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chair Thor Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

Present: Craig Bell, Sonia Burklund, Ben Champagne, Kathy Couillard, Stephanie Domina, Bob Gilmour, Sarge Harvey, Bill Keys, Theresa Lister, Vee Murugan, Thor Rasmussen, Thelma Ruffin, Pat Shelley, Joe Turner

Excused: William Ewald

Absent: Kristin Karwat, Karly Schmidt

Staff Present: Marsha Braun, Demetrios Scott

Approval of Minutes

Craig Bell moved to approve the June 18, 2025 minutes. Ben Champagne seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bell reviewed the June, July and August 2025 treasurer's reports, noting nothing unusual for any of the summer months. Joe Turner moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Kathy Couillard. Motion passed.

Nominating

Commission has no vacancies at this time.

Art at the Andersen

Dreamland by Matthew Krease, opens on September 17 with a series of fun and whimsical oil paintings.

Fall Show, *A Mixed Medley* featuring works by the Saginaw Area Watermedia Artists will run October 7 – 16. Reception Tuesday, October 7, 5 – 7 p.m. Save the Date and plan on attending the opening reception.

Hollyday Art Mart

Will take place on Wednesday, December 3 from 10 am – 5 pm. We have two committed sponsors and are seeking additional. Also seeking auction donations and cookie bakers. The local holly supplier has closed, looking into a new supplier or an alternative.

Art Roundtable/Artist Mixer

Next Arts Roundtable will be held in October at Bayne's in Freeland, date and time to be confirmed.

Artist Mixer will be held at Andersen Center on October 28, 6 – 8 pm. Anita McKeith will lead the program, "An Introduction to the Critique Circle." All artists in all disciplines are invited to attend the free program.



Saginaw Celebrates Summer

Saginaw Celebrates Summer has wrapped up with the last live interview on WNEM TV5 on September 5. In addition to the television interviews and calendar distribution, weekly updates on Facebook, radio, print and social media advertising, radio interviews and remote broadcasts took place throughout the summer. Thank you to HSC, Jolt Credit Union, WNEM TV5, WSGW and Jeff Carpenter Studios for their support this summer. Wrap up report and request for funding for 2026 to follow.

Michigan Arts & Culture Council

No word yet on whether the FY26 state budget will include funding for MACC. The House has recommended zero funding, but the budget must still move through the Senate and be approved by the Governor. Commissioners discussed how the elimination of MACC funding would affect the cultural sector, particularly SAEC, and what steps they can take to make their voices heard. Marsha will send advocacy and statistical information to the commission.

Chair Report

Kudos to Marsha and Demetrios for doing a great job communicating all the great happenings in the city during Saginaw Celebrates Summer so that all people have an opportunity to see and do in our community.

In light of the possible cut to MACC funding, the months ahead will be interesting. Now is the time to start thinking about new revenue sources.

Directors Report

Scott Seeburger made an additional \$3,000 donation to the Scott J Seeburger Young Artist Award fund at the Saginaw Community Foundation. Public can donate to this fund just like the ArtReach Fund.

Ruth Ann Knapp has set up a Fine Arts Fund at the Saginaw Community Foundation to benefit young art students by supporting attendance at master classes and other "extras." She is asking the commission to assist with promotion and coordination of the application process. Marsha will meet with Ruth Ann to confirm SAEC interest and obtain details.

Announcements

The Saginaw Art Museum will host a reception on October 2 at 5:30 pm to celebrate the newly acquired Couse painting, *An Offering to the Great Spirit*. All are invited to attend.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Recorded by:
Marsha Braun, Director