

**SAGINAW ARTS & ENRICHMENT COMMISSION**  
120 Ezra Rust Dr  
989.759.1362  
January 21, 2026  
Minutes



### **Call to Order/Roll Call:**

Chair Thor Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Present: Craig Bell, Ben Champagne, Kathy Couillard, Bob Gilmour, Sarge Harvey, Theresa Lister, Thor Rasmussen, Thelma Ruffin, Pat Shelley, Joe Turner  
Excused: Sonia Burklund, William Ewald, Kristin Karwat, Vee Murugan, Thelma Ruffin  
Absent: Stephanie Domina, Bill Keyes  
Staff Present: Marsha Braun, Demetrios Scott

### **Approval of Minutes**

Craig Bell moved to approve the October 15, 2025 minutes. Cathy Couillard seconded. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

December 2025 treasurer's report was presented by Craig Bell, nothing unusual in report, tracking as expected. Pat Shelley moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Bob Gilmour. Motion passed.

### **Grant Update**

Marsha Braun announced that the commission received a \$15,000 grant from the Huntington Charitable Trusts, Hemlock Semiconductor will be title sponsor for Saginaw Celebrates Summer 2026, and the MACC FY26 grant application has been submitted for Project Support, Facility Improvement, Equipment and Professional Development. Hope to hear about MACC grant early March.

### **Hollyday Art Mart**

Thank you to all who volunteered and donated cookies/auction items, we had a great turnout this year! Proceeds fell a little short of last year's proceeds primarily due to fewer sponsorships. Bake Shoppe, silent auction and the raffle item did extremely well.

### **Art @ the Andersen**

*Interior Landscapes* by Allise Noble, also showcasing work by her Creative 360 student artists with disabilities closes January 26. Student artwork by Handley Elementary K – 5 opens January 29. Meeting with two artists, Kristianne Tefft and Kevin Alfonso, for possible 2027 shows.

### **Artist Mixer/ARTS Roundtable**

Arts Roundtable Annual Legislative Meeting with Elected Officials on Friday, April 17 at 10 a.m. at Andersen Enrichment Center. Planning an art themed game night/Bingo for the next Artist Mixer.



### **All Area Arts Awards**

All Area Arts Awards will take place Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at the Dow Event Center. We have two \$500 sponsors secured and are beginning to send out other requests. Nominee submissions can be made anytime by visiting the [artsaginaw.org](http://artsaginaw.org) website. Also working on a new rubric for the Scott J Seeburger Young Artist Award. Stay tuned for more details as planning progresses.

### **Saginaw Celebrates Summer**

Hemlock Semiconductor has committed to Title Sponsor for 2026, we will be seeking additional sponsorships. Please send summer events, June 1 – August 31, we are beginning work on the calendar.

### **Chair Report**

We have begun a new year and there is plenty to do both inside and outside so get out and explore the community and the arts.

### **Director's Report**

Planning and scheduling for 2026 youth programming continues. Veronica Lazorchak has begun a Black History Month themed painting class at First Ward Community Center now through February.

### **Announcements**

Demetrios will begin research on a fundraising opportunity with the Great Lakes Loons. Saginaw Art Museum has an opening reception for Mark Piotrowski exhibition tomorrow evening and an Art After Dark Date Night, February 11, 6 – 8 pm. Opening reception for the Lark Allen Exhibition, Thursday at Studio 23 in Bay City. Saginaw Choral Society will have performances of Jukebox One Hit Wonders, The Musical Misfits at the Court Street Theatre on February 13 and 14.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Recorded by:  
Marsha Braun, Executive Director