

SAGINAW ARTS & ENRICHMENT COMMISSION
120 Ezra Rust Dr
989.759.1362
February 18, 2026
Minutes



Call to Order/Roll Call:

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

Present: Craig Bell, Sonia Burklund, Ben Champagne, Kathy Couillard, Bob Gilmour, Sarge Harvey, Kristin Karwat, Bill Keyes, Theresa Lister, Thor Rasmussen, Thelma Ruffin, Pat Shelley

Excused: Stephanie Domina, William Ewald, Vee Murugan, Joe Turner

Absent: Karly Schmidt

Staff Present: Demetrios Scott

Approval of Minutes

Karly Schmidt was added to last month's roll call as present. Craig Bell moved to approve the January 21, 2026 minutes. Ben Champagne seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Craig Bell reported everything looks good, and stated that the Artreach funds were above budget because the funds came early. Kathy moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Bob Gilmour. Motion passed.

Art @ the Andersen

Attendance for the Handley student show has been good, people were here until 6pm on February 16. Next month Karly's students' artwork will be on display. We will have after hours until 6pm on March 16. For future student showcases, we would like to focus on more schools and grades.

All Area Arts Awards

Additional sponsorship forms are going out in the mail this week, we are doing well on sponsorships to date. Chet Davis from WNEM TV5 will be the emcee for the evening. Waiting for drumline to respond, and we will have Courtinuum back for music during the reception. The deadline for award nominations, including the Seeburger Young Artist award, is March 31. There has been a lot of positive feedback on Facebook for the Young Artist Award, Scott Seeburger is coming back with his wife to present his award.

Artist Mixer

The next artist mixer will be art trivia night on March 11 from 6 - 8 pm. The following artist mixer will be in August and will feature an art supply swap.

Saginaw Celebrates Summer

Send any events to Marsha to include in calendar. Demetrios is looking at advertising placement. He has reached out to STARS to possibly advertise on the back of buses. He will also reach out to Pete Shaheen for billboard advertising on top of the Chamber building. We hope to continue with WNEM as well.

SAGINAW ARTS & ENRICHMENT COMMISSION
120 Ezra Rust Dr
989.759.1362
February 18, 2026
Minutes



Chair Report

Thor said that it's nice to see all those who are being nominated, and good to see these artists getting recognition. He encourages us to nominate more artists for the awards. Demetrios mentioned that due to rising costs, the award will be changed from crystal to glass this year.

Announcements

There are two shows coming to the Temple Theater - Dusty Slay and Joshua Bell. Saginaw Art Museum's Art After Dark was a success and they are working on more After Dark events. Court Street Theater opened with the Choral Society's Musical Misfits. Kathy said it was a full house, with over 600 in attendance.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Recorded by:
Theresa Lister, Commissioner