

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



Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chair Thor Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

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

Excused: Craig Bell, Ben Champagne, William Ewald, Karly Salesky

Absent: Kristin Karwat, Bill Keys

Staff Present: Marsha Braun, Demetrios Scott

Approval of Minutes

Sarge Havey moved to approve the February 18, 2026 minutes. Pat Shelley seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

In Treasurer Bell's absence, Director Braun reported that Arts Awards sponsorships are coming in and that all other income and expenses are tracking as expected. Kathy Couillard moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Theresa Lister. Motion passed.

Michigan Arts & Culture Council

MACC FY26 grant awards have been announced. SAEC is thrilled to have received \$28,041 for Project Support, Facility Improvement & Equipment, and Professional Development.

Artreach Grant

Applications for 2026-2027 were due February 27. Fifteen great applications totaling \$46,100 in requests were received. The committee will meet early April to review. Awards will be announced at the May 6th All Area Arts Awards.

All Area Arts Awards

Save the Date for May 6th at the Dow Event Center and plan to attend this year's event. We are still actively seeking sponsorships; they are slow coming in this year. Nominations for the awards may be submitted online at artsaginaw.org, due March 31.

Scott J. Seeburger Young Artist Award

If you know a Saginaw County resident between the ages of 17–30, please encourage them to apply for the Scott J. Seeburger Young Artist Award for an opportunity to win \$1,000. More information and link to apply online at artsaginaw.org, due March 31.



Artist Mixer

We had very low attendance at the art trivia night mixer on March 11. Those attending had fun and suggested holding another trivia night when not conflicting with bar trivia nights. Thank you to Kathy Couillard for serving as our trivia host.

Arts Roundtable

The Annual Legislative Arts Round Table has been postponed until 2027 due to conflicts with the upcoming elections, expiring term limits, and others. In its place, MACC Chair Amy Spadafore, will present an Advocacy Update on April 21, 9:30 a.m. at Miles Market.

Saginaw Celebrates Summer

Send any events to Marsha to include in calendar by April 1. Working on securing additional sponsors.

Art @ the Andersen

CTRL + ALT + Create! The artwork of Karly Schmidt's junior and senior design students from the Saginaw Career Complex is on display through April 29, 2026. Other 2026 show include photographer by Anita McKeith and paintings by Dan Hoffman.

Chair Report

The All Area Arts Awards is a great way to support the arts and honor our creatives and those volunteer and support programming. The Seeburger Young Artist Award will be presented at the Arts Awards, Scott is a great visionary by thinking to provide a means for young artist to expand their creativity. Plan on attending.

Announcements

The Joshua Bell concert at the Temple Theatre was excellent concert and very well received. Upcoming shows at the Temple Theater include the Wallflowers, Ben Folds and several yet to be announced shows. Saginaw Art Museum just introduced a new field trip series Gardens and Galleries, will have Puzzles and Pastries next week, and the Youth Arts Festival in May. SVSU Intercultural Night is 3/19 at 7 pm, at the University. Roethke Poetry Festival will host a Ted (Roethke) Talk and Brew at Oracle Brewery on 3/22, 6 – 8 pm.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Recorded by:
Marsha Braun, Director