

Arts Council of Alachua County

Date: October 6, 2025
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: County Administration Building - County Manager's Training Room
12 SE 1 Street, 2nd Floor, Gainesville, FL 32601

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Christian Duran, Amy Koester, David Morris, David Ruiz (Vice Chair), Carol Velasques Richardson (Chair), and Corey Williams (in at 5:45 p.m.)

Members Absent: Alexander Sanchez-Hamilton

2. Welcome & Introduction of Corey Williams

Returning member, Corey Williams, was welcomed and introduced.

3. Approval of the Agenda

David Ruiz made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; David Morris second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

David Ruiz made a motion to approve the Sept. 2 minutes as presented; Christian Duran second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

5. Annual Work Plan & Accomplishments

David Ruiz made a motion to approve the Annual Work Plan and Accomplishments report as presented; David Morris second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

6. 5th Annual Artists Conference

The Council discussed how to attract local artists, promotional materials, vendor booths, juried submissions, hands-on activities, a stained glass demo, kid-friendly activities, and how to set up an LLC and file tax forms.

7. Revised Art Loan Resolution

David Ruiz made a motion to approve the resolution, removing the weight limit; Amy Koester second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

8. Visual and Interpretative Art and Exhibitions

Chair Velasques Richardson suggested the Arts Ordinance be updated to allow the Arts Council to pursue curated, pop-up, and gallery exhibitions in the future. Gina Peebles will email the Ordinance to the Council for a through review and add this to the November agenda for discussion.

9. Call-to-Artist Update

9.1 Court Complex

The artist has been selected and the sculpture will take a year or so to complete.

9.2 Fire Station 21 Bronze Sculpture

"Bunker Gear" was installed.

9.3 Poet Laureate

The County Commission unanimously re-approved E. Stanley Richardson as our Poet Laureate for another three-year term.

9.4 Pleasant Street

The agreement is nearing completion, so the Call to Artists can be advertised soon.

9.5 Craftsmen's Guild Display

The locking, lit, display will be ordered once the Resolution is approved by the County Commission.

10. Other Business

10.1 Youth Member

Ms. Peebles reported that several advisory boards have converted a full member vacancy to a Youth Member and asked if the Arts Council wanted to do the same with the current vacancy. David Ruiz made a motion to request the County Commission update the Resolution to convert a full-member to a Youth Member; David Morris second; Corey Williams in dissent; motion carried (5:1).

11. Public Comment

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.