

**SANTA FE COUNTY
ART, CULTURE, AND CREATIVE ECONOMY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2025, 9:00 AM
SANTA FE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMPLEX
240 GRANT AVENUE, SANTA FE, NM**

1. OPENING BUSINESS

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Art, Culture, and Creative Economy Council was called to order by Pam Sullivan, Chair, on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 9:00 am, at the Santa Fe County Administration Complex, 240 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe, NM.

B. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pam Sullivan, Chair
Kevin Box
Brian McPartlon
Mariah Burns
Carla Sanders
David Lindblom
Rudy Bentz
Nancy Sutor
Michael Lancaster
Brian McPartlon
Pablo Acona
(one vacancy)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rudy Bentz, excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Jonathan Butler, Community Development Director
Anne Wodarczyk, Community Development Planner
Valarie Rengel, SF County Planning Department
Juan Torres, SF County Economic Development Department Manager
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Sullivan said the minutes are not available. We need to remove item 6 (A) from it's current location on the agenda to become item 5 (B).

MOTION A motion was made by Ms. Sutor, seconded by Mr. Box, to approve the agenda as amended.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

D. INTRODUCTIONS

introductions were made.

E. ACCE RESOLUTION POINTS

Chair Sullivan read

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. ACCE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

B. ACCE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 8, 2025

These items were postponed.

3. MATTERS FROM STAFF

Mr. Butler said he thought it would be a good idea to address you and make sure the roles are clear and to communicate the timeline and what we are trying to get to.

Mr. Butler said we are attempting to have your information turn into something he can present, on behalf of the Council, in November codifying the two main things you have given voice to - making the Council permanent in some way and a full time employee. Both the City Manager and the Board of County Commissioners expect that recommendation. We want to put around that, what you want to see and what you want to do. In conversations, you have noted that these are important, but it is muddled a bit. You are helping to co-create the Council and what you would like to do.

Mr. Lancaster said it is refreshing to have a clear goal. He appreciates that.

Ms. Sanders asked if Mr. Butler would explain the difference between a five year plan and what he wants to present.

Mr. Butler said he wants to present something that turns into a plan. He has not received a five year plan. This is an intermediary step based on community engagement and engagement with other bodies of people. Some of those things have to happen in order for you to come up with a five year plan. He needs to present something solid to the BCC in November. The Council will continue to work within the eighteen month mandate. Those will be building blocks between you all and the staff person. Capacity issues need to be considered as we consider things you want to do. That needs to be co-designed for a long-term strategy in a five year plan.

Mr. Butler explained that it is the County's job to put the meat on the bones, to budget, to right-size it and to set the responsibilities of the employee. He believes he can present an idea of more of an Arts and Culture Division within the Community Development Department with a specific Arts and Culture employee.

Mr. Butler continued, saying looking at the language of the Resolution, the beginning points are there and need to be considered in our priorities. They are:

1. Increase the general public's awareness of art
2. Visually enhance the community
3. Capture a part of our history for future generations

That is the responsibility of the County and the role of our consultant. The County's interest is to formalize efforts. The County hired a third party consultant to work on a five year plan.

Mr. Butler said he is an honest, open and transparent person. He knows the tension points. Part of his job is to re-center us and ensure we have a good, sound plan. We believe in all the work Tressa has done and we are in a place to compile that information and put it into something that makes sense for your review. Tressa and Anne are working together to do that. He wants to remove the idea that we have to wordsmith everything. Our Department needs your thoughts and ideas that we can turn into something for your review. Anne has agreed to step in to work with you. He understands the tension points on language and what Tressa is writing for the BCC. We want to recognize her work in that.

We are working now on the three things you talked about in the last meeting as your priorities. He would like the Council to ratify the three priorities today. We want to work from that framework and put meat on those bones and priorities.

Mr. Lindblom said he appreciates being brought down to earth. The awareness, enhancement and history are important. He feels there is another part as well and that is to be sure we fold in equity and diversity into what we do. As we get into the next discussion, we can form that out. As to getting to a plan, do we feel we have all the aspects included.

Mr. Butler said that is not today. That is down the line for you.

Ms. Sutor said thank you for clarifying our mission and what we are doing here. She thinks it is worthwhile to keep those action steps in mind. She agrees a plan is further down the line.

Ms. Sanders said she likes his organic holistic approach to this. We have done a lot of work, but still have a lot of voices that have not been heard in a group setting.

Mr. Box said he appreciates the consolidation of where we are headed. We all, at least, now have a better view of what this is all about. It was not well facilitated to this point. We all felt frustration. Right now, we can see the possibility of this work. You have taken the pressure off. We can move forward. He appreciates that and is really grateful. He feels the leadership and sense of control.

Mr. Lancaster said thank you Jonathan for what you brought forward.

4. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR

A. UPDATE ON QUARTERLY REPORT AND PRESENTATION - TENTATIVE DATE NOVEMBER 25

Chair Sullivan said we need to elect a Vice Chair for the Council.

Mariah Burns was nominated.

MOTION A motion was made by Chair Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Box to elect Ms. Burns as Vice Chair.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

Chair Sullivan said in August, we came up with vision and mission statements. She would like to vote on them today.

Chair Sullivan read the Mission and Vision statements.

MOTION A motion was made by Ms. Burns, seconded by Ms. Sutor, to approve the Mission and Vision statements.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote, with one no vote from Ms. Sanders.

Ms. Sanders stated that she voted no because she felt like we were very influenced by coming under economic development when we wrote these. Is that still the structure.

Mr. Butler said it is about the economy of Santa Fe County. The title of the Council is Arts and Culture and Creative Economy. The BCC felt that is important that art and creatives be included in that and it continues to be true. They look at economics as a very important part of that. That is why it was put under Economic Development. The idea is that this folds into the fabric of the Economic Development Plan. It is not the only thing, and is not the be all, end all.

Ms. Sanders asked if Mr. Butler felt these statements fit what he just said.

Mr. Butler said he loves the statements and why they have been written. This is more for you all than for him. He wants to help you all figure out what you want to do and make sure the County supports that.

Mr. Box said he feels this is the most effective conversation we have had. He is proud and comfortable with this. This is one of our core achievements.

Mr. Lindblom said he feels the same as Kevin and is pretty happy with this. We will add details in these with action plans down the way.

Chair Sullivan said we could possibly add the word Arts to the mission statement.

MOTION A motion was made by Ms. Sutor, seconded by Ms. Sanders, to reconsider the vote on the mission and vision statements.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

MOTION A motion was made by Ms. Sanders, seconded by Mr. Lancaster, to add arts to the mission statement.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

Chair Sullivan said Kevin will take the discussion from here.

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/REPORTS

A. WORK SESSION - DEVELOPING PRIORITIES

Mr. Box said he is enthusiastic and has renewed faith in the Council and moving forward.

Mr. Box stated that we agreed upon three goals and need to approve them.

Ms. Burns said we did not vote on them at the previous meeting because we ran

out of time.

Mr. Box said he wants to pick back up the discussion.

There was discussion about the first goal including ethics and oversight, incorporating non-represented people, expanding the Council to include an advisory committee, people left out of the creative economy, murals and other issues.

Mr. Box said lets come to consensus on the first goal. After proposed changes, the goal is now:

“Cultivate inclusion and equity throughout the County.”

There was discussion around the word “inclusion”.

Mr. Butler said he thinks you are saying we believe in the value of a level playing field. Perhaps think about removing barriers to the ability of people to equally participate in the open market. He thinks that is fair for all of you to say. It also drives the participation in economics.

Mr. Box said he feels we have had some success in our discussion today. We will move on at our next meeting. Thank you for trusting me and thank you Jonathan.

Chair Sullivan asked Mr. Butler to address the report.

Mr. Butler said going back to the Resolution language, this is an opportunity to do our quarterly report. Anne has graciously agreed to do that report. The point is to ensure that she has the talking points that the Resolution asks for. We are targeting October 28th for the report to be completed.

6. ACTION ITEMS

None.

7. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

8. MATTERS FROM THE COUNCIL

A. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was noted that there is a history seminar at San Isidro Parrish this Saturday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Chair Sullivan asked about the Council vacancy.

Mr. Butler said a recommendation has been made to the BCC and will be discussed at their next meeting.

Chair Sullivan said at the last meeting someone was going to provide a map for us.

Mr. Butler said we will work on that.

9. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

A. NEXT MEETING JANUARY 14

B. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 11:04 am.

Pam Sullivan, Chair

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer