



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Cultural Commission

01/05/2026

7:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting

The City of Santa Clara is conducting the Cultural Commission meeting in a hybrid manner (in-person and a method for the public to participate remotely).

Via Zoom:

<https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/82207705371>

Meeting ID: 822 0770 5371

Or join by phone: 669-900-6833

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair von Huene at 7:03 p.m.

Present 5 - Commissioner Abinas Roy, Vice Chair Candida Diaz, Commissioner Charles Pontious, Chair Debra von Huene, and Commissioner Neetu Garg

Absent 2 - Commissioner Kuku Das, and Commissioner Louis Samara

A motion was made by Vice Chair Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Garg to excuse Commissioner Das and Commissioner Samara from the meeting.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Commissioner Pontious, Chair von Huene, and Commissioner Garg

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Das, and Commissioner Samara

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. [25-1750](#) Action on the Cultural Commission Regular Minutes of December 1, 2025

A motion was made by Vice Chair Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Garg to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2025 meeting.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Commissioner Pontious, Chair von Huene, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Das, and Commissioner Samara

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [25-1751](#) Discussion and Potential Action on Cultural Commission Work Plan and Activities for FY 2025/26

The Commission discussed Work Plan and provided updates. No action was taken.

STAFF REPORT

Manager Castro shared an opportunity for community members to join the Global Relations subcommittee that will discuss how to showcase the City of Santa Clara to the 2026 events visitors. The Commission was invited to attend the Lunar New Year celebration at 900 Lafayette on January 31 and February 1.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Pontious shared that he performed at the Historic Home Tour and attended and performed at several holiday events in the area.

Commissioner Roy attended a 10 day meditation retreat.

Commissioner Garg enjoyed working on the Holiday Home Decorating Contest with the Commission subcommittee.

Vice Chair Diaz attended the City of Santa Clara Parks & Recreation Department's production of the Nutcracker as well as Western Ballet's Nutcracker in Mt. View.

Chair von Huene performed in "Let There Be Light" at the Santa Clara Mission with the Santa Clara Chorale and participated in a backgammon competition.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Roy and seconded by Vice Chair Diaz to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Roy, Vice Chair Diaz, Commissioner Pontious, Chair von Huene, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Das, and Commissioner Samara

The next regular meeting of the Cultural Commission is scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2026.

MEETING DISCLOSURES

The time limit within which to commence any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City is governed by Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, unless a shorter limitation period is specified by any other provision. Under Section 1094.6, any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City must be filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which such decision becomes final. Any lawsuit or legal challenge, which is not filed within that 90-day period, will be barred. If a person wishes to challenge the nature of the above section in court, they may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Clara, at or prior to the meeting. In addition, judicial challenge may be limited or barred where the interested party has not sought and exhausted all available administrative remedies.

If a member of the public submits a speaker card for any agenda items, their name will appear in the Minutes. If no speaker card is submitted, the Minutes will reflect "Public Speaker."

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