

MINUTES
ARTS AND CULTURE ADVISORY BOARD
January 13, 2026

The meeting of the Arts and Culture Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Colombo at **6:32 P.M. Tuesday, January 13, 2026**, at The Frank Art Gallery.

Present: Chair Colombo and Members: Koren, Jordan, Minnis, Murias, and Pakiet-Mercado.

Absence: Members Rodriguez and Pierce.

Also Present: City Staff Liaison Holly Bonkowski, Assistant City Attorney Susannah Nesmith, and Board Secretary Marlene Graham.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Colombo called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

ROLL CALL:

The Board Secretary declared a quorum.

MINUTES APPROVED:

The board approved the December 9, 2025 Arts and Culture Advisory Board meeting minutes.

- **Motion** was made by **Member Pakiet-Mercado**, seconded by **Member Jordan**, to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2025, Arts and Culture Advisory Board Meeting. **Motion was approved unanimously.**

EXCUSED ABSENCE: The board excused the absence of Member Rodriguez and Member Pierce.

- **Motion** was made by **Member Jordan**, seconded by **Member Koren**, to excuse the absence of Members Rodriguez and Pierce from the January 13, 2026 board meeting. **Motion was approved unanimously.**

REPORT OF LIAISON:

Liaison Bonkowski provided a report on upcoming events. Programs include "Beats and Bites" on Thursday nights and a Martin Luther King Day festival. The festival features Pembroke Pines' first ever Martin Luther King Day parade, poetry readings, performances, live music and food trucks.

Studio 18 artists will host an *Art is Forever* open house and art sale on January 31, featuring affordable artworks.

Florida Talks Program about the Civil Rights Movement in Florida on February 9, 2026.

Sensory Saturdays, on the second Saturday of every month, provide quiet gallery access for children or adults with sensory sensitivities before opening hours.

Opening Reception featuring Adrian Sosa *Habitar una Nube* (To Inhabit Cloud) January 29, 2026.

Family Day at the Frank Gallery on the first Saturday of each month with self-led art activities.

Clay Day: Hand Built Cases and Forms – January 21 and 31. At Studio 18 Art Complex.

Opening Reception, Edison Penafiel, January 29, 2026.

The Panther on the Prowl project invites the public to suggest a name for a life-size panther sculpture located at City Hall. Proceeds from the project will benefit cancer research. Pembroke Pines Mayor Angelo Castillo will be presenting a proclamation at the February 4th Commission Meeting for the February National Cancer Awareness Month. He will present the proclamation to the artist Disem who donated his time to create the sculpture.

OLD BUSINESS:

Board members discussed ideas for enhancing traffic box designs. At the next meeting the board will revisit the discussion on re-wrapping five (5) traffic boxes. Chair Colombo said discussion at the next meeting in February could include working with a graphic designer to update the quality of the images to make them more impactful. Member Jordan said the traffic box near North Perry Airport could be cleaned up or re-wrapped because its appearance looked faded. Five new wrapped boxes could include art to represent cultural and recreational themes more effectively.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Chair Colombo asked board members for their thoughts on the City's Arts Festival in November 2025. Ms. Bonkowski said she followed up with Chris regarding feedback and suggestions from artists about sales at the festival. Some artists said they had no sales. Customers were not buying. Chair Colombo wanted to explore the expectations of the artists.

Member Minnis said providing QR codes leading up to the event could give potential customers a head start for exploring a showcase of vendors who will be participating in the event. Ms. Bonkowski brought forward a suggestion that coupons of any chosen value could be used at vendor booths to generate customer interest and trigger purchase.

Member Pakiet-Mercado said customers might be sensitive to pricing of items, and niche products. Ms. Bonkowski said she would talk to the promotor about analytics on event customers and participating artists to improve sales.

Member Murias asked about adult dance classes at the Frank Gallery. Teaching dance on the Plaza at City Hall, Yoga, Salsa, sewing instruction for children. Chair Colombo liked the ideas.

Ms. Bonkowski said most dance classes in the city have been for children rather than adults. She clarified that most events and activities at the City must meet insurance and contractual requirements.

ADJOURNMENT:

- **Motion** was made by **Member Pakiet-Mercado**, seconded by **Member Jordan**, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.

The next meeting of the Art and Culture Board will be on **Tuesday, February 10, 2026.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Marlene Graham, Board Secretary
City of Pembroke Pines

APPROVED: 2/10/2026