

Board of Directors Meeting
Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture, Inc.
Date/Time: July 9, 2025, 7:00 PM
Location: Zoom

In Attendance: Mona Kishore (*Chair*), Meryl Bloomrosen, Heather Hanson-Rivas, Ronda Keys, Jason Light, Barbara Martin, Theresa Nielson, Chhandasi Pandya Patel, Samir Paul, Lafe Solomon, Tisha Thompson, Warren Hansen (*for Andrew Friedson (ex-officio)*), Ken Hartman Espada (*ex-officio*)

Absent: Philip Bay, Dia Costello, Sharon Freeman, Chris Fromboluti, Swati Gupta, Mike Zangwill

Guest: Greg Grant

Staff: Katey Boerner, Jenni Cloud, Kathleen Duffy, Ama Mills-Robertson, Emily Rogers

Board President Mona Kishore called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and welcomed the newly appointed board members Chhandasi Pandya Patel and Jason Light.

1. Approval of Minutes (Hanson-Rivas)
 - **The Board voted unanimously to approve the June 11, 2025 minutes as written.**
(*Minutes 2025-06-11*)
 2. Finance Committee (Paul)
 - FY25 numbers are being finalized and there will be a year end report at the next meeting.
 3. President's Report (Kishore)
 - FY26 Work and Priorities - The Executive Committee reviewed the end of year board survey results and will incorporate the input into the FY26 goals which will include advocacy at all levels of government, fundraising & development, and recruitment and education of the board.
 - Committees - Discussions regarding committee chairs and membership have started and will be completed before the end of summer.
 - Annual Board Forms - Mona reminded the board to complete the forms if they have not done so.
 4. Board Governance (Kishore for Neilson)
 - Election of New Board Members – The committee recommended adding Michael Belisle as an at-large board member effective July 10, 2025 for 2 year terms.
The board unanimously approved electing the proposed new board member.
(*Board Governance Report 2025-07-09*)
 - County Appointment Update - Applicants were interviewed last month and recommendations have been forwarded to the County Executive.
 5. CEO & Staff Reports (Boerner)
 - Facade - A portion of the facade below the art deco sign came down last Sunday. The structure is a replica of the 1950's sign installed in 2003. Its function is primarily cosmetic. Assessment and plans to repair the sign are underway with the County and NPS.
 - Spanish Ballroom - To move the project forward the NPS deferred maintenance (approximately \$2M) will likely be decoupled from the project. Assuming there is funding, this will allow the County to lead the remainder of the project which has been slowed due to federal cuts.
 - Clara Barton Historic Site - The design work is complete but there is no construction start date.
 - Katey thanked the County for filling potholes on Road A.
 - Burglaries - A theft occurred during gallery hours and in a separate incident a purse was stolen from the Arcade building. The US Park Police are following up.
 - Ama Mills-Robertson shared highlights of the June 28 Heritage Days event and summer camps. She also reviewed upcoming events including the Labor Day Art Show:
 6. Old Business/New Business - None
- Meeting adjourned 7:52 pm

Next Meeting: September 10, 2025, 7pm (Arcade Building)

Upcoming Events: Art Walk - Friday, Aug 1, 6pm
Summer Concerts - Thursdays through Aug 21, 7pm
Labor Day Art Show Opening - Fri, Aug 29, 6-9pm
Labor Day Art Show - Sat-Mon, Aug 30-Sep 1, 12-6pm

Board of Directors Meeting
Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture, Inc.
Date/Time: September 10, 2025, 7:00 PM
Location: Arcade Building & Zoom

In Attendance: Mona Kishore (*Chair*), Meryl Bloomrosen, Dia Costello, Sharon Freeman, Laytona Graham, Swati Gupta, Heather Hanson-Rivas, Ronda Keys, Jason Light, Barbara Martin, Chhandasi Pandya Patel, Samir Paul, Lafe Solomon, Tisha Thompson, Mike Zangwill, Warren Hansen (*for Andrew Friedson (ex-officio)*)

Absent: Philip Bay, Michael Belisle, Chris Fromboluti, Theresa Nielson, Ken Hartman Espada (*ex-officio*)

Guest: Greg Grant

Staff: Katey Boerner, Jenni Cloud, Kathleen Duffy, Jilna Kothary, Ama Mills-Robertson, Emily Rogers

Board President Mona Kishore called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm with an icebreaker and welcomed Latonya Graham, the new County appointed board member.

1. Approval of Minutes (Hanson-Rivas)
 - **The Board voted to unanimously approve the July 9, 2025 minutes as written.** (*Minutes 2025-007-09*)
2. Finance Committee (Paul)
 - FY25 Financials - The Partnership finished the year in a good position. The details of the statements were discussed. Closing and adjusting entries, including those to restricted funds for the ballroom and playground, are in process. Preliminary results show a loss of \$21k.
 - The audit is starting in October and should be complete by the end of December. Adeptus, the same company as last year, is conducting the audit
3. Executive Committee & President's Report (Kishore)
 - Election of New Board Member – The committee recommended adding Jonathan Sterlin as an at-large board member effective September 10, 2025 for a 2-year term ending June 30, 2027. **The board unanimously approved electing Jonathan Sterlin to a two year term.** (Board of Directors Nomination 2025-09-10)
 - FY26 Strategic and Committee Priorities - Mona reviewed the key priorities and committee tasks. For the Board, “evergreen” responsibilities are Board member engagement, supporting enhanced fundraising, acting as ambassadors for the Park and developing an advocacy effort to ensure funding and connections to key political and government leaders. She also reviewed how the duties of staff and the Board interrelate and explained the waterfall approach which led to the draft committee goals. Board members were asked to review the committee level tasks which were distributed with their committee chairs.
 - The committee membership assignments were also reviewed.
4. Fundraising (Kothary for Nielson)
 - FY26 Fundraising Goals - This year's total budget for income from fundraising categories that the board can impact is \$580k raised from individuals (\$225k), foundations (\$100k), corporations (\$25k), and the gala (\$230k gross).
 - Year End Appeal - The campaign kicks off on Giving Tuesday (Dec 2) with a goal of \$140k, approximately \$20k above FY25. Jilna shared how board members can actively participate in the campaign. This includes securing matches (board, corporate, individual) to help incentivize giving and sharing the campaign with family/friends/neighbors.
 - Gala - The Gala is scheduled for May 16th and has a target net revenue of \$121k (\$230k gross income). The subcommittee will meet later this month to discuss potential chair(s), potential honorees, and the budget. Sponsorship packets will be available shortly and table renewal requests will be sent later this calendar year. Concerns were raised about the proposed budget given rising costs and the type of donors we are trying to cultivate. Sharon Freeman suggested incorporating the flavor of the Park into the program. A shared document for brainstorming will be sent to the board.

5. CEO & Staff Reports (Boerner)

- Spanish Ballroom - During the quarterly meeting with NPS and the County at the end of the month NPS will provide a status report on their value analysis (which must take place before any planned improvements can begin even if funded).
- Environmental Assessment - Work remains ongoing. A second public meeting is anticipated towards the end of the year after the report is written.
- Clara Barton Parkway - NPS is evaluating the parkway's deteriorating cantilever as well as the Glen Echo Overpass. The environmental assessment is in the initial comment period.
- Glen Echo Park Sign Facade - NPS gave approval to the pylon repair plans. The Partnership will pay the estimated \$60k from a major repair fund and the County will supervise the work.
- Arcade Classrooms - Renovation is in process and includes accessible sinks, electrical work, cabinetry, and soundproofing. A County grant is paying for a portion of the project.
- Labor Day Art Show - The show, now at capacity, outperformed last year in attendance (7,000), size (457 artists), and sales with approximately 40% of the 1,045 pieces on display selling. Gross sales were \$70k with the Partnership earning 30%. The event had great media coverage. Saturday's Music FREE-for-All attracted approximately 1,000 attendees.
- A new partnership with DC Veterans Affairs featured a series of 4 art workshops.

6. Old Business/New Business - None

Meeting adjourned 9:28 pm

Next Meeting: November 12, 2025, 7pm (Zoom)

Board Event: Happy Hour TBD

Upcoming Events: Echo Arts - Sun, Sep 28, 12-5pm
Fall Frolic - Sat, Oct 25, 1-4pm