

The Greeley Art Commission Agenda

Meeting Date August 19, 2025

At 4:00 p.m. at the Greeley Recreation Center Room 201

This meeting is held in person at the physical location and as a TEAMS meeting.

To join the meeting via TEAMS please email Kim Snyder for a link. You can provide public input/ public comment for this meeting by emailing your comments to Kim Snyder at Kim.Snyder@greeleygov.com.

Comments received up to an hour before the meeting will be read into the record at the appropriate time.

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

Louisa Andersen, Eddie Mirick, Michelle Booren, Tony Miller, Sharon Wright, Heather Utrata, Molly McIntosh, Benson Verbel, Michael Haren, Tom Devore, Kendra Albee, Perry Bell

3. Approval of July, Tuesday 15th Minutes
4. Guest Presentation by the Greeley Legacy group to inform of the awardees and organization purpose.
5. Guest Presentation by the Weld Walls 2025 rep for new Art Alleyway designs. Vote to approve new designs is requested.
6. Alley Dumpster Enclosure Art – Design created by Julie Dillon with a purple background option was sent to each Art Commissioner individually and the consensus was to keep the original black background. An official vote is requested at this time for the record.
7. Suggested location for New Purchase – It has been suggested by City Staff that we add artwork to the Swanson Kiwanis Park (see map below and image on page 3). If approved funding could be used from the 2026 annual Art Acquisition fund for up to \$30,000.



8. Arts Picnic – Follow up, comments, suggestions for next year

Non-Action Items Below: Please read before the meeting. These items will only be addressed if you have questions, to request more information, or if the committee chair would like to share updates.

1. Project Reports:
 - a. Water Treatment and Reclamation Art update – RFQ is live on Café’.
 - b. 16th St – Mario Echevaria is scheduled to install one historical figurative work of art in September and two in November; the installation is contingent upon construction schedules staying on time.
 - c. Paint the Town – all proposed designs are in for 2025 Art Alleyway dumpster enclosures and Weld Walls 2025 murals.
 - d. 15th Ave underpass – Kim and Will visited Alquist 3D warehouse and are waiting for cost estimates to come in before scheduling a committee meeting to move forward. Perry Bell and Benson Verbel volunteered to be on the committee.
 - e. Delta Park – Moving forward with two ‘Totem’ sculptures; waiting for delivery of concrete cylinders. Groundbreaking moved to September 10, 2025.
 - f. Meeker House Projection Art Update – event will be scheduled for Monday September 29th starting at 7pm. We will use a Greeley Hispanic Celebration theme

2. Maintenance & Repair

3. Art is the Point mural by Eleanore Yates – Ella Yates has completed the maintenance on her mural. Existing varnish was removed, touch up paint was applied, and 2 to 3 coats of new varnish was applied.

4. Other:
 - a. Tointon Gallery – Journey Through Awe by artist Dan Augenstein

Adjournment Next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2025.

Minutes

The Greeley Art Commission

July 15th, 2025

Room 201, Greeley Recreation Center

1. The meeting was called to order by Louisa Anderson at 4:05 p.m.

Board Present: Louisa Anderson, Eddie Mirick, Molly McIntosh, Michael Haren, Benson Verbel, Kendra Albee, Perry Bell, Tom Devore, Tony Miller.

Board Absent: Michelle Booren, Heather Utrata, Sharon Wright.

Citizen: Cinque Mason

Staff Present: Kim Snyder, Will Dillion, Megan Weiler, Brecklyn Everhart.

2. Approval of June 2025 minutes.

Motion to approve the June 2025 minutes made by Benson Verbel and seconded by Molly McIntosh.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Alley Dumpster Enclosure Art-Top Designs will be presented for Art Commission discussion and approval.

- Kim showed the committee awarded dumpster wrap designs to the commission. Discussion was held.

Motion to accept the 9 dumpster wraps made by Molly McIntosh and seconded by Perry Bell

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Arts Picnic-booth sitting sign up and booth activity report.

- A sign-up sheet went around the room for commissioners to sign up to sit at the booth.

- Will showed the banners that will be hung on the side of the tent, as well as the activity that will take place. And announced that there will be a live finger painter during the day.
 - Betony Coons designs the arts picnic poster this year, and we will be selling T-shirts with that design for the first time.
5. Oasis Fountain- Plexiglass people are broken beyond repair to be removed and disposed of.
 - No discussion about the plexiglass people was held.
 6. Water Treatment and Reclamation Art Update-RFQ (Request for qualification)
 - The post is live for artists to submit their rfq for this project. This is just for the sculpture, the mural will be put for rfq next year.
 7. Meeker House Projection Update- Event will be scheduled September 29th starting at dusk. We will be using a Greeley Hispanic Celebration theme.
 - This will be open to the public.
 - Gee from downtown development is working with the contractor to create a video of Greeley's events. This is what will be shown on September 29th.
 8. Delta park- Moving forward with two 'Totem' sculptures.
 - The grand opening has been moved to September, more information and updates to come.
 9. Other:
 - Eddie Mirick let us know about an opportunity that would be available for a mural at the west lake shopping center. Proposed the idea of a diverse mural that would show all of Greeley's cultures.
 - Tointon Gallery: Arts Picnic Show, need votes for people's choice. And update on next exhibit and opening reception August 1st.

Meeting adjourned 5:01 p.m.

Next meeting will be held August 12th at 4:00 p.m. at the Greeley Recreation Center Room 201.

Swanson Kiwanis Park



The son of local farmers, Swede Swanson was born in Greeley on October 23, 1915. He attended Pleasant Valley and College High Schools graduating in 1933. In addition to rearing five children, Swede made many contributions to the citizens and youth of Greeley beginning shortly after graduation. In 1937 Swede began traveling much of northeastern Colorado officiating close to 3,000 athletic events. In 1945 he served with the U.S. Navy at Okinawa. In 1949 he umpired the World's Softball Tournament at Forbes Field. By 1950 he recognized the needs of youth in his local community and initiated a project to

create a park where he could teach youth to fish, hunt and play sports in a safe playground environment. In a letter to The Denver Post-Gart Brothers Sporting Goods "My Favorite Fishing Spot" contest Swede stated one of his favorite fishing spots was his own back yard. That's where he taught his three sons, two daughters and several neighborhood children how to use fishing equipment. Swede helped initiate a casting contest at Glenmere Park, an event that eventually became an annual fishing derby that now rotates the park system! Swede also maintained involvement in youth education as a member of the Education Advisory Committee for Greeley's public schools. He served three consecutive city council terms (1953-1959) and had the distinguished honor of being elected "City Dads of Greeley". Swede passed away June 14, 1974. His contributions to the lives of Greeley youth will not soon be forgotten.

In the summer of 1950 motorists frequently encountered children playing in the street in the vicinity of 14th Avenue and 7th Street. Greeley police warned the kids that they would have to take their games elsewhere despite the children's pleas that they had no other place to play. The lack of safe public open space was all the prompting that Clarence "Swede" Swanson needed. Swede converted his backyard to a playground with badminton and volleyball courts. He already had swings, a sandbox and teeter-totters that his children as well as others used daily. His small backyard would not accommodate baseball, football or basketball. Soon Swede began looking at the lot behind his home. Mr. Reichester was willing to rent the lot to Swede but it had already been planted for the season. Swede did not let this deter him. He paid cash for the corn, rented the lot and then began to look for help. Neighbors donated money, the city Recreation Committee helped with sports equipment, and the police made "slow playground" signs for each end of the alley.

Swede's brother offered a tractor to plow and level the field. Local businesses provided equipment for softball, basketball, football, badminton, boxing, volleyball and casting practice. Some of the courts were even lit for night play. The area was known as the "Stars of Tomorrow" playground and was used regularly by 30-40 neighborhood kids. Swede recognized that more needed to be done but knew further improvements such as an asphalt basketball court would not be feasible unless the playground could be permanent. Next he set out to raise \$550 needed to purchase the lot. In September of 1950 the Kiwanis Club presented Mr. Swanson and four boys, his son Gene, Truman Hall, John Hibler and Bill Murphy with \$482.00 dollars for the purchase of the playground. Swede generously accepted on behalf of all of the boys and girls who frequented the playground. On September 23, 1950 the City of Greeley observed National Kids Day with the acceptance of the deed to the playground as presented by R. Karl Foulk of the Kiwanis Club. In the following years, several of the kids who "learned their skills" in baseball and basketball on Swedes playground went on to become State Champs as well as local and National Hall of Fame members. Childhood memories of early years in the park include catching crawdads in the ditch along the west edge, playing games into the night without complaints from neighbors and leaving school at lunch to hit the playground for a quick game of ball.

Kiwanis Park was completely enclosed by homes until the City of Greeley purchased homes on the east (2000) and west(2003) sides in order to make the park more visible. One of the homes was relocated to 2nd street and the other demolished for these expansions. Along with grant monies and donations the Kiwanis club provided additional funding. A swing set, new basketball court, shelter, sidewalk, and landscaping were added. In 2007 the park was renamed Swanson Kiwanis Park and dedicated in honor of Clarence "Swede" Swanson and his legacy of youth involvement in the neighborhood he loved.

