

City of Naperville

*400 S. Eagle Street
Naperville, IL 60540
<http://www.naperville.il.us/>*



Naperville

Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

6:00 PM

Meeting Room C

SECA Commission

PUBLIC COMMENT:**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Brodhead called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present 8 - Judith Brodhead, Rich Gannon, Tom Miers, Rachna Prasad, Ashfaq Syed , Arthur Zards, Linda Kuhn, and Shree Gurusamy
Absent 2 - Lai So, and Gregory Gustin

Also present: Jake Fiedler, Special Events Coordinator; Melanie Marcordes, Director of Community Services; Alex Amato, Student Representative; Tien Nghiem, Student Representative

C. PUBLIC FORUM:**SPEAKERS**

Rick Eertmoed, organizer of the Last Fling event, requested clarification on SECA policies regarding political and religious matters. The Commission clarified that religious services may not occur at SECA-funded events. The Commission further clarified that events must comply with SECA policy which remains aligned with federal 501(c)(3) requirements, prohibiting applicants from participating in or supporting political campaigns

Jane Burke, representing Naperville Preservation, Inc., announced the publication of the organization's 2025 SECA-funded survey book on historic Tosi houses and expressed her appreciation to the SECA Commission.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approve the SECA Commission meeting minutes of April 15, 2026

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes 04.15.26 Draft](#)

Commissioner Miers made a motion to approve the SECA Commission meeting minutes of April 15, seconded by Prasad. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss the Story of Ram Initiative

Attachments: [The Story of Ram CY26 SECA Application](#)

Hiteshree Das, event organizer, informed the SECA Commission of an updated plan

regarding the Story of Ram Initiative. The SECA Commission determined that the proposed revisions constituted a minor change in scope, as the updated proposal did not alter the overall type of project, primary audience, format, or core deliverables of the funded event. Additionally, there were no changes to the fundamental use of justification of SECA-funded expenses, and no additional funding was requested. The SECA Commission recommended that Mandala South Asian Performing Arts be granted approval to proceed with the updated plan.

Meeting went into Recess at 6:57 PM

Meeting reconvened at 7:02 PM

2. Discuss SECA policy items and/or designate items for the June SECA meeting

The Commission directed staff to develop a formal cancellation-notice procedure for the application year CY27. The Commission also clarified the SECA reimbursement timeline, supported the questions-and-answers document process, and requested that SECA grant applicants include an invoice description to ensure clarity of submitted expenses.

3. Approve the new SECA Mission statement

Commissioner Miers made a motion to approve the new SECA Mission statement, seconded by Gannon. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

4. Receive an update on the CY26 SECA grant funded initiatives

Fiedler presented a progress report of initiative funded by the CY26 SECA grant.

Commissioner Gannon asked to discuss and review additional SECA policies and procedures. Fiedler will review and discuss SECA policies and procedures at the next meeting.

F. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Miers made a motion to adjourn the SECA Commission meeting of May 20, 2026, at 8:14 PM, seconded by Kuhn. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

/S/ Jake Fiedler
Jake Fiedler
Special Events Coordinator