



City of Naperville

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

Meeting Agenda SECA Commission

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

6:00 PM

Meeting Room C

PUBLIC COMMENT:

TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THE MEETING: To address the Commission in person during the meeting, members of the public should sign up in person at the meeting location on the day of the meeting. Signup is available for 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS OR A POSITION OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION:

You may submit written comments and position statements to the commission at www.naperville.il.us/bc-comment in advance of the meeting. Comments will be received from the time the agenda is published until 24 hours before the meeting start time. Comments and position statements received during this timeframe will be shared with the commission and posted in the Meeting Details section on the City's meeting management system in the day of the meeting. Comments received outside this time frame will not be transmitted or posted. Written comments will not be read aloud during the meeting.

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES: The citizen participation guidelines are outlined in: 2-1-16 - CITIZEN PARTICIPATION of the Naperville Municipal Code.

ALL VIEWPOINTS AND OPINIONS WELCOME: All viewpoints are welcome, positive comments and constructive criticism are encouraged. Speakers must refrain from harassing or directing threats or personal attacks at Commission members, staff, other speakers or members of the public. Comments made to intentionally disrupt the meeting may be managed as necessary to maintain appropriate decorum and allow for city business to be accomplished.

IF YOU SIGN UP TO SPEAK: The Chairman will call your name at the appropriate time during the Commission meeting. Once your name is called you may identify yourself for the public record. Speak clearly and try to limit remarks directly to the matter under discussion. Speakers are limited to three minutes and are called in the order they sign up.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

B. ROLL CALL:

C. PUBLIC FORUM:

D. OLD BUSINESS:

1. [26-0754](#) Approve the SECA Commission meeting minutes of May 20, 2026

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. [26-0755](#) Review the request for \$5,200 of public art funding from Artist Raul Rodea and reach consensus on a funding recommendation.
2. [26-0756](#) Review the current SECA logo and discuss potential changes
3. [26-0758](#) Discuss SECA policy items
4. [26-0759](#) Receive an update on the CY26 SECA grant funded initiatives

F. ADJOURNMENT:

Any individual with a disability requesting a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in a public meeting should contact the Community Services Department at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting. The Community Services Department can be reached in person at 400 S. Eagle Street, Naperville, IL., via telephone at 630-305-5300 or via e-mail at napervilleclerks@naperville.il.us. Every effort will be made to allow for meeting participation.



File #: 26-0754, **Version:** 1

Meeting Date: 6/17/2026

SECA COMMISSION SIMPLE AGENDA ITEM

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the SECA Commission meeting minutes of May 20, 2026

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

SUBMITTED BY: Jake Fiedler, Special Events Coordinator

City of Naperville

*400 S. Eagle Street
Naperville, IL 60540
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Naperville

Meeting Minutes - Draft

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



File #: 26-0755, **Version:** 1

Meeting Date: 6/17/2026

SECA COMMISSION SIMPLE AGENDA ITEM

ACTION REQUESTED:

Review the request for \$5,200 of public art funding from Artist Raul Rodea and reach consensus on a funding recommendation.

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

SUBMITTED BY: Jake Fiedler, Special Events Coordinator

Artist Raul Rodea is requesting \$5,200 of SECA public art CY26 set-aside funding for a window mural project, at Pro Image Sports (120 Water Street, Suite 118).

The SECA Commission reserved a total of \$15,000 for public art requests that arise throughout CY26. No other requests for this funding have been received or granted this year.



File #: 26-0756, **Version:** 1

Meeting Date: 6/17/2026

SECA COMMISSION SIMPLE AGENDA ITEM

ACTION REQUESTED:

Review the current SECA logo and discuss potential changes

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

SUBMITTED BY: Jake Fiedler, Special Events Coordinator

Staff has been informed that the current SECA logo is difficult to reproduce due to its swooshes and low resolution file format, which limits its use across print and digital materials.

The Commission is asked to direct staff either to pursue logo revisions or retain the current design.



File #: 26-0758, **Version:** 1

Meeting Date: 6/17/2026

SECA COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

ACTION REQUESTED:

Discuss SECA policy items

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

SUBMITTED BY: Jake Fiedler, Special Events Coordinator

BOARD/COMMISSION REVIEW:

N/A

BACKGROUND:

Several SECA policy items were discussed by the Commission throughout the application process. Staff is requesting direction on the items discussed.

DISCUSSION:

City Obligations for Public Art Maintenance

For CY26, \$75,000 in City Obligations is allocated for public art maintenance. For the 2027 budget, staff recommends that only art located on public property be eligible for funding through City Obligations. There are 29 pieces of art located on City property, 20 on private property, and 5 on public property that are not considered City responsibilities.

For art on private property, staff will advise artists or curators to apply for SECA grant funding as a potential source of maintenance support. This new CY27 policy is intended to ensure transparency, consistency, and clarity regarding maintenance responsibilities and available resources. The recommendation does not diminish the value of privately located art but clarifies the City's role in administering public funds.

The Commission is asked to support staff's recommendation that only city property art be maintained through City Obligations.

Use of Set-Asides

The 2026 approved discretionary allocations include \$15,000 in set-aside funding for community arts projects that may arise throughout the calendar year. This approach provides flexibility to support art initiatives that are not known during the standard application cycle. In recent years, set-aside funding has been allocated and fully utilized, including \$23,500 in 2024 and \$10,883 in 2025.

Staff is seeking a decision on whether to continue or discontinue the use of set aside funding for

community arts projects in CY27.

Food and Beverage Purchases

The SECA Policy and Procedures Manual currently states that food and beverage purchases-other than professional catering-are ineligible for reimbursement. This restriction applies to grocery, fast food, and restaurant purchases.

The Commission may consider whether permitting food purchases from Naperville establishments would be beneficial, as such spending supports the Food and Beverage Fund. However, the current policy language may be difficult to interpret and administer consistently, as some establishments traditionally classified as restaurants or fast-food providers also offer catering services. This can create uncertainty regarding which food-related expenses qualify for reimbursement and which do not.

The Commission may also wish to consider whether food expenses directly advance the public benefit associated with SECA-funded events. While food may be provided to volunteers, performers, or event participants, the connection between such expenditures and the community benefit derived from the event may not always be clear. Additionally, event organizers may have opportunities to secure separate sponsorships, donations, or in-kind contributions to cover food-related costs.

The Commission is therefore requested to review the Food and Beverage policy and determine whether the existing language should be clarified, revised, or amended to formally state that all food-related expenses are ineligible for reimbursement.

Application Allocation Practice

The Commission currently employs a practice under which an application is denied if a majority of Commissioners recommend \$0 in funding. As a result, an application is rejected when six of ten Commissioners recommend no funding, even if the remaining four Commissioners support a funding amount. Including \$0 recommendations in the calculation of an application's average funding score will naturally reduce the overall recommended allocation, reflecting the concerns of Commissioners who do not support funding the application.

Additionally, during the allocation discussion, the Commission retains the ability to determine that an application should receive no funding based on the merits of the application and the discussion among Commissioners. Discontinuing the automatic denial practice would therefore allow all recommendations to be reflected in the allocation process while preserving the Commission's discretion to deny funding when appropriate.

Staff recommends discontinuing this practice beginning with the CY27 application cycle.

Standard process for event and/or project cancellations

The Commission is asked to confirm the following cancellation process.

The revised process will be presented at the mandatory SECA workshops on August 20 and August 24, 2026, and incorporated into the SECA Policy and Procedure Manual and SECA Agreement. Applicants will be informed that cancellations directly affect the Naperville community and may

impact their standing, including a potential complete loss of grant funding for the following calendar year.

Applicants are required to submit a formal written notice of cancellation. This notice must be provided directly to City staff. Staff will email the formal written notice to the SECA Commission.

The written notice must include:

- A clear statement indicating the applicant's intent to cancel the approved event and/or project.
- A detailed explanation of the reasons for the cancellation.
- Any relevant supporting information that may assist the Commission in understanding the circumstances leading to the cancellation.

Should staff not receive a cancellation notice, the applicant should expect the consequences of their decision to be reflected in the following calendar year, including potential ineligibility for grant funding.



File #: 26-0759, **Version:** 1

Meeting Date: 6/17/2026

SECA COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

ACTION REQUESTED:

Receive an update on the CY26 SECA grant funded initiatives

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

SUBMITTED BY: Jake Fiedler, Special Events Coordinator

BOARD/COMMISSION REVIEW:

N/A

BACKGROUND:

N/A

DISCUSSION:

Progress of initiatives funded by the CY26 SECA grant will be discussed.