

# City of Joliet

150 West Jefferson Street  
Joliet, IL 60432



## Meeting Minutes - Pending Approval

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

5:00 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers

### Arts Commission

*Commission Members*

*Deborah Filotto*

*Donna Franks-Tapley*

*Tom Grotovsky*

*Ron Romero*

*Julia Russotti*

*John Simpson, Jr.*

*Peg Stoiber*

*Deborah Summers*

*Debra Volling*

**Special Meeting**

## ROLL CALL

Commissioner Romero arrived at 5:08Pm. Also Present: Cultural Affairs & Special Events Director Ann Sylvester, Help Desk Manager Pam Cox, Help Desk Technician Kim Gunia and Legal Assistant Katy Fyksen.

**Present** John Simpson Jr, Tom Grotovsky, Deborah Summers,  
Deborah Filotto, Donna Franks-Tapley and Ron Romero

**Absent** Peg (Marguerite) Stoiber, Debra Volling and Julia Russotti

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tabled until next meeting.

## CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

## AGENDA ITEMS

### **Sijia Chen Unity Dome Final Presentation**

[TMP-9306](#)

Ann Sylvester Cultural Affairs & Special Events Director Introduced Sijia Chen's Presentation on the Unity Dome.

Sijia Chen via Teams Presented to the arts commission how the final design for the Unity Dome came together. Ms. Chen talked about her experience touring Joliet and the public engagement workshops, and how it gave her incite into the community. The most frequent responses received to the outreach were the river and bridges, the limestone, Old Joliet Prison, Route 66, The Rialto Theatre, Blues Brothers, the Steel Industry and Joliet being Home and Community. Ms. Chen described all the elements incorporated into the Unity Dome from the outreach.

She thanked the Commission for their help and for allowing her to create something special for Joliet.

Ann Thanked Sijia for the presentation.

After the presentation and Staff, Member and Public Comments Ms. Chen talked about the timeline for the implementation of the Dome. Next steps Structural and Mechanical designs. and fabrication of the Dome pieces. Once they have the finalized engineering design they will share those with the city.

Chairman Grotovsky asked about how the dome would be transported and put together on site.

Michel Pak, Sijia Chen's manager responded it would be transported on flatbeds in a shipping containers.

Ms. Chen said it would be assembled on site.

Chairman Grotovsky talked about filming the assembly process.

There was a question about lighting of the dome.

Mr. Pak responded that the city would be installing the lighting.

Ann responding that the lighting will be installed.

May will be the targeted completion date.

## **STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

## **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Filatto asked about a plaque explaining all the elements.  
Ms. Chen replied there would be an informational plaque with the dome.

Commissioner Simpson is excited and Commissioner Grotovsky likes the wheel next to the chair. Commissioner Romero thinks it looks great, as does Commissioner Franks-Tapley, she asked about the S-J if that was Sijja Chen's Signature. Ms. Chen replied that it was. Commissioner Summers also likes it a lot.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Councilwoman Suzanna Ibarra, as a resident. Thinks it's beautiful, loves the heart detail.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Simpson, Jr, seconded by Romero, to adjourn.. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Simpson Jr, Grotovsky, Summers, Filotto, Franks-Tapley and Romero

**Absent:** Stoiber, Volling and Russotti

This meeting will be held in an accessible location. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact The City Clerk Office, 150 West Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432 at (815) 724-3780.