

York Creative District Advisory Board Minutes
October 22, 2025

Present: Clark Roush (Director, York University), Sue Crawford (City of York), Annie Redfern (independent artist); Alex Saathoff (York Visitor's Bureau), Kirby Crawford (business artist); Lisa Hurley (YCDC)
Absent: Elise Owens (Yorkshire Theater); Madonna Mogul (Chamber), Trent Bruntz (York Public Schools);

The Open Meetings Act announcement was made. The meeting was published in the York News Times on October 5, 2025.

The approval of the minutes of the June 18, 2025 and August 27, 2025 meetings were approved. Motion by Hurley and seconded by Redfern. Motion passed unanimously. (Roush (Y); Crawford (Y); Redfern (Y); Saathoff (Y); Crawford, K (Y); Hurley (Y)).

Mural proposals were reviewed. The call for mural proposals was posted with the Nebraska Arts Council and posted on the City of York website. The board approved moving forward with image #2 by Jasmine Young. The proposal was to ask if the top section could be completed for \$20,000 – and to seek \$10,000 in York Visitor Bureau funds to be able to complete the full image. Redfern moved and Saathoff seconded to move forward with image #2 with the top portion if only Creative District funds are used and with the full image if \$10,000 in grant funds can be added. The vote was unanimous in support. (Roush (Y); Crawford (Y); Redfern (Y); Saathoff (Y); Crawford, K (Y); Hurley (Y)).

Hurley will take the lead on the YVB grant. Redfern is taking the lead in communicating with the artist.

Sue Crawford gave a budget update. The Council approved \$10,000 in funds for the Creative District from LB 357 funds for the upcoming budget year.

Sue Crawford gave a grant update for the Lights, Camera, and Action grant. The funds have been used to upgrade the Auditorium and most of the funds for the Yorkshire Theater have been spent. The mural funds remain to be spent.

Saathoff gave an update on two other grants. The YVB promotion grant expires in February 2026. Rousch and Saathoff will work on a 2026 proposal for the January meeting of York Visitor's Bureau. Rousch will also work with Saathoff on a grant for the Rededication Ceremony for July 3, 2026.

The board discussed a proposal to bring a BLIXT art lab performance to York. BLIXT has a grant that provides a performance in a community for \$2,000. If a community experience is added, it adds \$1,000. Hurley moved and K. Crawford seconded the motion to approve a performance with Creative District funds and to approach York Public Schools to see if they are interested in contributing towards the community interaction portion of the performance. The motion passed unanimously. (Roush (Y); Crawford (Y); Redfern (Y); Saathoff (Y); Crawford, K (Y); Hurley (Y)).

Roush will follow up with YPS. Crawford and Roush will follow up with BLIXT.

Roush gave an update from the Events committee concerning the proposed Adult prom, scheduled for March 7. Feedback included raising ticket prices to \$40 dropping table prices for tickets and making sure that there were QR codes or other ways for people to donate at the prom. Saathoff moved and Redfern seconded an approval of up to \$2,000 for upfront expenses for the prom. The motion was approved unanimously. (Roush (Y); Crawford (Y); Redfern (Y); Saathoff (Y); Crawford, K (Y); Hurley (Y)). The prom is expected to be a fundraiser for Creative District activities.

Next meeting: December 10th at 4:00 PM

Next meeting – Agenda item – new location for the Now Showing sign.
Other likely agenda items: Mural; Prom; Grants Updates

October 22, 2025

Creative District Advisory Board Meeting

York City Council Chambers

AGENDA

Open Meetings Act Announcement

Approval of June minutes, Approval of August minutes

Mural Proposals

Budget Updates

Grant Updates

Visiting Theater Proposal / Blixt

MAAA - ExhibitsUSA

Adult Prom

Other Committee Updates

York Creative District Advisory Board Minutes
June 18, 2025

Present: Clark Roush (Director, York University), Sue Crawford (City of York), Madonna Mogul (Chamber), Alex Saathoff (York Visitor's Bureau), Kirby Crawford (business artist); Trent Bruntz (York Public Schools).
Absent: Elise Owens (Yorkshire Theater); Annie Redfern (independent artist); Lisa Hurley (YCDC)

The Open Meetings Act announcement was made. The meeting was published in the York News Times on June 11, 2025.

The minutes of the April 16, 2025 meeting were approved. (Moved by Mogul, seconded by K. Crawford – the motion carried with all affirmative votes).

Budget Items

Proposal to request \$10,000 from LB 357 funds to support sustainability for Cultural Festival (\$3,500); to support Icon Art Project (\$3,500) (in strategic plan); and ongoing arts projects and collaborations (\$3,000).

Include in budget \$10,000 for possible donations and up to \$15,000 for York Visitor's Bureau promotional grants to support sustainability for digital promotional strategy; and promotion of cultural district activities.

Grant Spending Progress:

Stage Curtains – in progress

Yorkshire Theater lights and sound – in progress

Mural – not clear

Strengthening Communication:

Dr. Roush reiterated the importance of coordinating communication on arts events. He will be connecting with partners to set procedures in place.

Other Updates:

Cultural Festival – Oct. 11th

Grant Report Requirements submitted in May

Upcoming 50 year celebration of I-80 sculptures -July 3, 2026

Upcoming icon program - with July 3, 2026 event

Both connected to July 3, 2026 special Firecracker Frenzy

Next Meeting:

August 27, 2025 – 4:00 – City Council Chambers

York Creative District Advisory Board Minutes
August 27, 2025

Present: Clark Roush (Director, York University), Sue Crawford (City of York), Madonna Mogul (Chamber), Trent Bruntz (York Public Schools); Annie Redfern (independent artist).

Absent: Alex Saathoff (York Visitor's Bureau), Kirby Crawford (business artist); Elise Owens (Yorkshire Theater); Lisa Hurley (YCDC)

The Open Meetings Act announcement was made. The meeting was published in the York News Times on August 20, 2025.

The approval of the minutes of the June 18, 2025 meeting were tabled until the next meeting as a quorum had not yet arrived.

Cultural Festival

Discussion was held concerning whether to postpone the tentatively planned October 11, 2025 Cultural Festival. After conversation about preparations and conversations about the advantages of alternating years with the Cultural Festival, Redfern moved and Mogul seconded a motion to postpone the Cultural Festival in 2025.

Discussion included recognizing the importance of recruiting staff from the member institutions to help with organization and continuity for festivals.

Grant Updates

Auditorium – Curtains ordered and installed.

Yorkshire – Lights ordered and in process. Sound equipment pending.

Mural- Call for artists is out. Discussion of additional outreach.

Budget Updates

Spread sheet – Review of spreadsheet process for fiscal tracking for projects and grants.

Proposed for 25/26 - City budget includes \$10,000 for Creative District in LB 357 funds

Committee Updates

Visual Arts – Call for Mural for grant mural project is out; Nebraska Women's Correctional Center mural project is near completion; Mural project with state-wide J.A.G. high school students begins soon.

Creative District is supporting with \$1,000 grant and endorsement of project. The mural will be at the school.

Events – Collaboration with Chamber on planning for Adult Prom 2026.

Next Meeting: October 22, 2025 – City Council Chambers