



CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE
Route 66 Visitor Center Commission Meeting
January 27, 2026 – Minutes

City Councilor - Klarissa Peña, present
City Councilor - Brook Bassan, present
Department of Arts & Culture - Shelle Sanchez, Ph.D., present
Department of Arts & Culture - Diego Lucero, present
Visit Albuquerque Position - Tania Armenta, absent
West Central Community Development Group - Twyla McComb, present
West Central Community Development Group - Lorenzo (House) Otero, present
West Central Community Development Group - Carlos Garcia, absent
West Central Community Development Group - Joe Chavez, absent
Mayoral Appointee - JR Rael, present
Hispano Chamber of Commerce Representative, absent
Support Staff - Marc Montoya, Bree Ortiz, present

1. Call to Order

- a. JR Rael called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

2. Review & Approve Minutes from November Meeting

- a. No quorum established to approve the November minutes.

3. Updates

- a. 2026 Exhibits - Shelle announced that the scheduled opening for the Visitor Center will be March 7, 2026. 5 Ton Monkey, gave a presentation on the exhibit design and features that will be located in the main hallway.
- b. Sign Park - Diego gave an update that the permits are in place for the sign installations. The signs will be delivered and installed with the walkways and landscaping to follow. The signs will be refurbished on site, after installation is complete.
- c. Master Plan - Shelle gave the update that the City has selected an architect but has paused the conversation until the current installations are in place and finalized to establish what funding is needed.
- d. Maintenance and Repair Updates - Marc gave an update on the elevators having the deficiencies cleared, Fire Marshalls Office inspection passed, final building inspection passed, Certificate of Occupancy obtained, phase one of the flooring project has been completed, and the bollard in the parking lot has been replaced.
- e. Staffing Updates - Shelle gave an update that the Operations and Events Supervisor position has closed with interviews to come in the near future. A Senior Administrative Assistant position has been internally reassigned to the Route 66 Visitor Center and will start at the end of February.

4. Actions

- a. Recommendation to support the Little House Diner Relocation to the Route 66 Visitor Center Sign Park - No quorum established to vote on the recommendation to support the relocation of Little House Diner to the Route 66 Visitor Center.

5. New Business

- a. Review of 2026 Rental Policies and Rates – Shelle provide the proposed rental policies and rates for review. A discussion will take place at the upcoming Commission Meeting in March.

6. Announcements

- a. WCCDG began utilizing their office within the Route 66 Visitor Center - Twyla announced that three individuals from WCCDG will be sharing time on site to assist City Staff.
- b. Next Committee Meeting - February 24, 2026 at 3 p.m. for Exhibits and 4 p.m. for Master Plan.
- c. Next Commission Meeting - March 24, 2026 at 3 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.