



Nina Acosta, Commissioner
Venu Mallesara, Commissioner
Lorin Meeks-Harris, Commissioner
Michael Murray, Commissioner
Neva Parker, Commissioner
Lauren Razzano, Commissioner
Zach Unidad, Youth Commissioner
Heather Blanco, Secretary
Tobi Thomas, Liaison

MINUTES

Grants Advisory Commission Meeting

April 14, 2026

5:30 PM

Roseville Electric Building, 116 S. Grant St., First Floor

**Chair Acosta remote participation from 2218 Dora Ave, NW Albuquerque,
NM 87104**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Lauren Razzano at 5:31 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Secretary Blanco.

Present:

Commissioner Mallesara

Commissioner Meeks-Harris

Commissioner Murray

Commissioner Parker

Youth Commissioner Unidad

Chair Acosta

Vice Chair Razzano

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Razzano led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment received.

V. REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Minutes of the January 13, 2026, Meeting

Summary: Review and approve the Minutes from the January 13, 2026, Grants Advisory Commission meeting.

CONTACT: Heather Blanco 916-746-1171 hblanco@roseville.ca.us

Motion by Lauren Meeks-Harris, seconded by Venu Mallesara, to approve the Minutes from the January 13, 2026, Grants Advisory Commission Meeting. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara

Commissioner Meeks-Harris

Commissioner Murray

Commissioner Parker

Youth Commissioner Unidad

Chair Acosta

Vice Chair Razzano

2. 2026-2027 Fund Deliberation and Recommendations

Summary: Commissioners will review the grant application rankings and proposed average funding to determine award recommendations to forward to the City Council for the 2026–2027 Citizens' Benefit Fund grant.

CONTACT: Tobi Thomas 916-746-1368 tthomas@roseville.ca.us

Chair Acosta and Staff Thomas gave a brief introductory presentation about the available funding and the commissioners shared their scoring techniques. Chair Acosta presented a couple options on how to proceed with the deliberation. The commissioners preferred to go to a Category-Based Review starting with the highest ranked in each category. The commissioners then deliberated the funding recommendations and discussed how they scored the applications.

The total amount to award was \$279,940 from the Citizens' Benefit Fund.

The three Priority Groups are:

1. Small Requests (Under \$10,000)
2. Strategic One-Time
3. Operational/Mission

Voting for the funding was broken into 25 motions:

Public Comment:

Ed K, with Campus Life Connection, he was asking the commissioners to consider the ranking vs the percentage.

Motion One:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to fully fund all four organizations that Rank #1 in all three categories, seconded by Commissioner Neva Parker. Small Requests: Placer Community Foundation \$2,500; Strategic One-Time: Ready, Set Grow! School Garden Network \$35,000; Roseville Historical Society \$9,500, and Operational/Mission Support: GiGi's Playhouse, Inc. \$14,141. The Motion Passed.

Motion carried 7-0

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion Two:

Commissioner Neva Parker made a motion to fully fund two organizations Rank #2 in the Small Requests, seconded by Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris. Small Requests: Supporting the Taylor House, Inc \$10,000, and United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Sacramento Inc. \$6,971. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion Three:

Commissioner Neva Parker made a motion to fully fund Assistance League of Greater Placer, Rank #2 in Operation/Mission Support, for \$30,000, seconded by Commissioner Venu Mallesara. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion Four:

Commissioner Neva Parker made a motion to partially fund Valley Foothill Watersheds Collaborative Rank #2 in Strategic One-Time for \$2,500 to cover one Training Session, seconded by Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris. The Motion Passed.

Public Comment: Jennifer Chapman, Valley Foothill Watersheds Collaborative, submitted a public comment email which was distributed to the commissioners and with the agendas for the public to review, the email is asking the commissioners to consider at least funding one workshop with \$2,500.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Vice Chair Razzano

No:

Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Chair Acosta

Motion Five:

Commissioner Michael Murray made a motion to fully fund Campus Life Connection Rank #3 for \$10,000 in Small Request, seconded by Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion Six:

Commissioner Venu Mallesara made a motion to fund Seniors First, Rank #3, \$9,000 in Operational/Mission Support, seconded by Commissioner Neva Parker. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Vice Chair Razzano

No:

Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Chair Acosta

Motion Seven:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to not fund Defending the Cause Regional Alliance, Inc., Rank #4 in Small Request, seconded by Neva Parker. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion Eight:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to fund Stand Up Placer, Inc., Rank #4 \$20,000 in Operational/Mission Support, Commissioner Neva Parker seconded the motion. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion Nine:

Commissioner Neva Parker made a motion to not fund CYT Sacramento, Inc Rank #5 in Small Requests, seconded by Commissioner Venu Mallasara. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion Ten:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to fully fund Tommy Apostolos Fund Rank #5 in Operational/Mission Support \$17,500, seconded by Commissioner Michael Murray. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 11:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to not fund KidsFirst Family Counseling & Resource Centers, Rank #6 in Small Requests, seconded by Commissioner Venu Mallesara. The Motion Passed.

Public Comment:

A representative from KidsFirst wanted to address some of the missing information the Commissioners discussed in their deliberation.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Recused:

Commissioner Murray

Motion 12:

Commissioner Venue Mallesara made a motion to fund Compassion Planet, Rank #6 in Operational/Mission Support,\$12,500, seconded by Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 13:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to not fund Placer Breast Cancer Foundation, Rank #7 in Small Request, seconded by Commissioner Neva Parker. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

No:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Murray

Motion 14:

Commissioner Michael Murray made a motion to fund Keaton's Child Cancer Alliance, Rank #7 in Operational/Mission Support, \$20,000, seconded by Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 15:

Commissioner Michael Murray made a motion to fully fund Wellness Within Cancer Support Services, Rank #8 in Operational/Mission Support, \$15,000, seconded by Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Vice Chair Lauren Razzano called for a brief recess at 8:30p.m.
The meeting resumed at 8:36p.m.

Motion 16:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to fund Feeding the Foothills, Rank #9 in Operational/Mission Support, \$30,000, seconded by Commissioner Venu Mallesara. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 17:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to fund Child Advocates of Placer County, Rank #10 in Operational/Mission Support, \$15,000, seconded by Vice Chair Lauren Razzano. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Abstain:

Commissioner Murray

Motion 18:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to fund Wayfinder Family Services, Rank #11 in Operational/Mission Support, \$7,500, seconded by Vice Chair Lauren Razzano. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 19:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to not fund Lighthouse Counseling & Family Resource Center, Rank #12 in Operational/Mission Support, seconded by Commissioner Neva Parker. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 20:

Commissioner Neva Parker made a motion for reconsideration to revisit the funding recommendations for Stand Up Placer and Compassion Planet, seconded by Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 21:

Commissioner Neva Parker made a motion to increase the funding to Stand Up Placer to \$26,414 and Compassion Planet to \$18,914, seconded by Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 22:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to not fund all the remaining organizations in Operational/Mission Support without recusal, Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy, Roseville Police Activities League, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Roseville Conference, Hearts

Landing Ranch, Royal Stage Performing & Visual Arts, WEIRA, Inc., Hearts and Hands Counseling, Sierra College Foundation, The Gathering Inn, Placer Justice Foundation, Granite Wellness Centers, and Boys & Girls Club of Placer County, seconded by Commissioner Neva Parker. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 23:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to not fund A Touch of Understanding, seconded by Commissioner Neva Parker. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Chair Acosta

Abstain:

Youth Commissioner Unidad

Recuse:

Vice Chair Razzano

Motion 24:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to not fund the Roseville City School District Foundation, seconded by Commissioner Neva Parker. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Parker
Chair Acosta
Vice Chair Razzano

Recuse:

Youth Commissioner Unidad

Motion 25:

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to not fund Asian American Pacific Islander Association of Placer County, seconded by Commissioner Venu Mallesara. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara

Commissioner Meeks-Harris

Commissioner Murray

Youth Commissioner Unidad

Chair Acosta

Vice Chair Razzano

Abstain:

Commissioner Parker

VI. STAFF/COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chair Acosta reminded the commissioners at the May meeting there will be a discussion regarding the Grants process and if there are any changes they would like to bring up to discuss. Recommends reviewing the policy manual and Kone report to see if there are any refinements needed and have their notes ready for discussion.

Staff Thomas shared she will take these recommendations tonight to the City Council meeting on May 20th, and the check presentation will be at our August 11th, 2026 meeting. The next Grants Advisory meeting will be May 12, 2026, in the Civic Center, First Floor Conference Room at 311 Vernon Street at 5:30p.m. and this meeting will not be recorded.

The commissioners presented Secretary Blanco with flowers and a card for her time serving as Secretary on the Grants Advisory Commission and announced this was her last meeting before her retirement.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Lorin Meeks-Harris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:21p.m., seconded by Vice Chair Lauren Razzano. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara

Commissioner Meeks-Harris

Commissioner Murray

Commissioner Parker

Youth Commissioner Unidad

Chair Acosta

Vice Chair Razzano



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Heather Blanco, Secretary
Tobi Thomas, Liaison

MINUTES

Grants Advisory Commission Meeting

January 13, 2026

5:30 PM

Roseville Electric Building, 116 S. Grant St., First Floor

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chair Acosta at 5:30p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Secretary Blanco.

Present:

Commissioner Mallesara

Commissioner Meeks-Harris (arrived at 5:32p.m.)

Commissioner Murray

Commissioner Razzano

Youth Commissioner Unidad

Chair Acosta

Excused Absent:

Commissioner Parker

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Acosta led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comment received.

V. REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Minutes of the November 12, 2025, Meeting

Summary: Review and approve the Minutes from the November 12, 2025, Grants Advisory Commission meeting.

CONTACT: Heather Blanco 916-746-1171 hblanco@roseville.ca.us

Motion by Lauren Razzano, seconded by Michael Murray, to approve the Minutes from the November 12, 2025, Grants Advisory Commission meetings. The Motion Passed.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Razzano
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta

Nos:

Absent:

Commissioner Parker

2. Welcome 2026 Youth Commissioner

Summary: Welcome the new 2026 Youth Commissioner, Zach Unidad, to the Grants Advisory Commission.

CONTACT: Tobi Thomas 916-746-1368 tthomas@roseville.ca.us

Commissioners welcomed Zac Unidad. Zach gave a brief statement about himself.

3. Election of Vice Chair for Remaining of the 2026/27 Funding Cycle

Summary: The Grants Advisory Commission will appoint a Vice Chair for the remaining 2026/27 grant funding cycle.

CONTACT: Tobi Thomas 916-746-1368 tthomas@roseville.ca.us

Commissioner Meeks-Harris recommended nominating Commissioner Razzano or Commissioner Murray to serve as the Vice Chair. She feels both commissioners would do a great job in this role. After discussion amongst the commissioners, Commissioner Murray stated, he is honored. However, this is his first year on the commission and he looks forward to learning this year. Commissioner Razzano stated this is her 2nd year on the commission and she accepts the recommendation.

Chair Acosta wanted to point out that earlier in the fiscal year Commissioner Razzano had expressed an interest in the Vice Chair position and supports this recommendation.

Motion by Loren Meeks-Harris, seconded by Venu Mallesara, to elect Lauren Razanno as Vice Chair to fill the vacant position.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara
Commissioner Meeks-Harris
Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Razzano

Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta

Nos:

Absent:
Commissioner Parker

4. FY26/27 Citizens' Benefit Fund Grant Applicant Workshop

Summary: Conduct FY26/27 Citizens' Benefit Fund (CBF) Grant Applicant Workshop.

CONTACT: Tobi Thomas 916-746-1368 tthomas@roseville.ca.us

Chair Acosta, Vice Chair Razzano and Staff Thomas presented the Citizens' Benefit Fund Grant Application Workshop PowerPoint Presentation.

Information only.

Public Comment:

Mr. Patel, Kannada Sangha of Sac- Why does the organization need a Business License in Roseville? Chair Acosta and staff explained the City policy and explained how to get the Business License.

Donna Eckwortzel, Hearts Landing Ranch- this organization, uses interns, and practicum students who are not licensed, but supervised by Licensed Clinicians. She asked how would she record this during the application process. She was told to explain and provide information on the non-licensed students and provide copies of the licenses for the licensed clinicians.

Cathy Costic, What Would Jesus Do? - 1.) She noticed the Board Authorization Form was 25/26 to download, but the year is 26/27. Staff Thomas stated she will update it tomorrow. 2.) Cathy asked if a balance sheet is needed or just the budget for the program. Chair Acosta confirmed budget and budget narrative for the program and an overall operating budget.

Tammy Morgan, Placer Justice Foundation - Will last years RRF1 be ok? Staff Thomas, confirmed yes, most recent year.

Lori Grant, All Clutter Aside- they filed their CT1 filed last October they received a rejection letter and told to refile with the new form, she is not sure if they will have the new one back before deadline. Staff Thomas, stated to attach everything you have including the letter and if we are still in the review process you can send it in when you receive it.

Catia, Child Advocates - Asked with the limited funds can you recommend how much organizations should apply for? Chair Acosta, No we do not have any recommendations.

Jennifer Chapman, Valley Foothill Watershed Collaborative - Does the commission consider partial funding? Chair Acosta, yes, we do partial funding.

Morgan Mariono, Special Olympics - she is a former Grants Advisory Youth Commissioner, and congratulated Zach on his new youth commissioner appointment and said it leads to great things, and thanked the commissioners for all the work they do on this commission.

Commissioners Closing Comments and Tips:

Commissioner Meeks-Harris - follow directions, collaborate with other organizations for help, use all the resources available to you.

Chair Acosta - reminded applicants that this meeting is recorded if they need to review it, the PowerPoint will be uploaded to the website, and FAQs online are helpful. Lastly, from now until council makes their final funding recommendations, the commissioners are not allowed to visit, tour, or discuss anything with any of the organizations.

Chair Acosta called for a short break for any audience that would like to exit before the meeting continues.

5. Scoring Process Discussion

Summary: Review the process of scoring the approved applications for FY2026/27.

CONTACT: Tobi Thomas 916-746-1368 tthomas@roseville.ca.us

Chair Acosta stated the commissioners will talk through the current scoring process. Chair Acosta opened public comment and asked former Commissioner Ed Kriz to explain the historical background and how we got to the scoring process and our policy we use today. Ed Kriz gave a detailed explanation of how the consultant, council, commissioners, and staff collaborated to create a working process. The full Kone report is posted on the Grant's webpage to review.

Information only.

Public Comment:

Dr Hallowa, Wellness Within Cancer Support - ask if there is anything built into the scoring or policy regarding organizations that have more resources and seem to receive funding from Roseville often? Chair Acosta stated it is not built in the report or scoring, but this topic will be discussed at the May meeting.

VI. STAFF/COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chair Acosta thanked Commissioner Kriz for his time over the last 7-1/2 years serving on the Grants Advisory Commission and presented him with a plaque and Resolution of Appreciation. The Commission took a photo with out-going Commissioner Ed Kriz.

Staff Thomas reported that the application closes on February 2nd. She thanked Ed Kriz for his service to the Grants Advisory Commission. She reminded the commission that the next meeting is April 14th, at 5:30p.m. at 116 S. Grant Building 1st Floor conference room. This is the funding meeting, and it will be recorded.

Reminded the commissioners that the approved applications will be available to them to score by March 4th, and their scoring needs to be completed and returned to staff by March 29th.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by, Loren Meeks-Harris seconded by Lauren Razzano, to adjourn the meeting at 7:08p.m.

Ayes:

Commissioner Mallesara

Commissioner Meeks-Harris

Commissioner Murray
Commissioner Razzano
Youth Commissioner Unidad
Chair Acosta

Nos:
Commissioner Parker

DRAFT