

January 23, 2026

Dear Members of Protect the Covenant,

Subject: RSFA/PTC Mediation Update and Pending Board Vote on Resolutions Affecting Art Jury Authority

We are disappointed to report that last week's mediation session did not result in resolution. We believe this was a missed opportunity by the RSFA Board of Directors (BOD). As required under California law (specifically, provisions governing mediation confidentiality), details of the proceedings cannot be publicly disclosed.

Of more immediate concern, the RSFA Board has proposed two significant policy changes regarding the Art Jury, which were tabled during the January meeting, and will be voted on at the February 5th BOD meeting.

1. New "Operating Instructions to Art Jury Members," which—if adopted—would shift substantial project review authority from the Art Jury to Association staff.
2. A Resolution titled "Art Jury Review Process for Association Sponsored Projects," which would significantly restrict Art Jury input and oversight for Association-sponsored projects (such as the ongoing clubhouse remodel) in the interest of expediting approvals.

In a recent letter to the RSFA Board, Kelli Hillard, Immediate Past President of the Art Jury, stated: *"The Covenant is clear: the Art Jury exists to provide fair, independent design review. That independence is not accidental—it's foundational. Under this proposal, the Art Jury's authority would be stripped and transferred to paid staff who then report to the Board."*

Regarding the second resolution, Ms. Hillard added: *"Board members have claimed that the Art Jury holds too much power; but this resolution doesn't rebalance that power—it concentrates unchecked decision-making within the Board."*

For additional context, a January 13, 2026, article in the RSF Review (San Diego Union-Tribune) covers these proposals: <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2026/01/13/rsf-association-to-consider-operational-changes-for-art-jury-next-month/>

The draft Operating Instructions and the Resolution on Association Sponsored Projects—scheduled for a vote at the RSFA BOD meeting on February 5—are available here (note: access will require member login): <https://www.rsfaassociation.org/board-committees/supporting-documents-for-182026>

If you are concerned about these proposed changes—which would reduce the Art Jury's independent authority while increasing the Board's and staff's control—please consider taking action:

- Email a letter to the Board at RSFA@rsfaassociation.org (ideally before the February 5 meeting), or

- Attend the February 5 RSFA Board meeting in person to voice your opinion.

Your input as Covenant members can help ensure the Art Jury's foundational role in preserving our community's unique character is maintained.

Warm regards,

Your PTC Team Representatives