



CITY OF
GRAND RAPIDS
IT'S IN MINNESOTA'S NATURE

ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 02, 2024
4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:45pm by Commission Chair Hedlund.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Commissioner Ed Zabinski
Commissioner Jennifer Gorman
Commissioner Kari Hedlund
Commissioner Myrna Peterson
Commissioner Amanda Lamppa
Commissioner Angie Miskovich
Commissioner Sara Slaubaugh

ABSENT

Commissioner Aaron Squadroni
Commissioner Derek Fox

City Staff Present: City Administrator Tom Pagel

PUBLIC INPUT: (if anyone wishes to address the Commission) None.

SETTING THE AGENDA:

Motion made by Commissioner Gorman to add Agenda Item 1A, Election of Commission Officials and change Agenda Item 1 to 1B, Seconded by Commissioner Peterson. Voting Yea: Commissioner Zabinski, Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Slaubaugh.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

1A. Election of Commission Officials

Motion made by Commissioner Gorman to nominate Commissioner Hedlund as Commission Chair, Seconded by Commissioner Zabinski. Voting Yea: Commissioner Zabinski, Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson,

**Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Slaubaugh.
Motion made by Commissioner Lamppa to nominate Commissioner Gorman as Vice
Chair, Seconded by Commissioner Hedlund. Voting Yea: Commissioner Zabinski,
Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner
Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Slaubaugh.**

APPROVE MINUTES:

- 1B. Approve December 5, 2023 Minutes

**Motion made by Commissioner Zabinski to approve the December 5, 2023 Minutes,
Seconded by Commissioner Lamppa. Voting Yea: Commissioner Zabinski,
Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner
Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Slaubaugh.**

FINANCIALS:

2. Approve Financials for December 2023

**Motion made by Commissioner Peterson to approve the December 2023 Financials,
Seconded by Commissioner Lamppa. Voting Yea: Commissioner Zabinski, Commissioner
Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Lamppa,
Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Slaubaugh.**

BUSINESS:

3. Welcome New & Returning Commissioners

The Welcomed and introduced themselves to new Commissioner Sara Slaubaugh. They also thanked the returning Commissioners who were re-appointed.

4. Riverfest 2024

Discussion revolved around the possible options for public art at next year's Riverfest. The Commission talked about last year's art featuring Tom Page, the feedback they received and that they could brainstorm to get some ideas for more visible, engaging or interactive art for this year.

UPDATES:

5. NW Neighborhood Art Project

Discussion of Agenda Items 5 & 6 combined. The NW Neighborhood Art Project started a couple of years ago as goal of the Commission's Master Plan to place art in each of four of the city quadrants. The art would not only be a neighborhood identity, but enhance the community. The NW Neighborhood Art Project Area has been put on hold. There is a possibility of improving the park so that the area has better exposure and is more inviting to the public.

City Administrator Tom Pagel met with the Blandin Foundation to discuss their planning assistance with the park's improvements and what economic impact it would make to the community. There will be a follow-up meeting with the Blandin Foundation to include both the Community Development Director Rob Mattei and the Director of Parks and Rec/Yanmar Arena, Dale Anderson. City Administrator Tom Pagel will ask Program Manager Emily Carlson from the MacRostie to send a letter to the three artists letting them know that everything is on hold and that the timeframe has been pushed into the future.

6. NW Park Design Timeline

This item was included in Agenda Item 5.

7. Blanket Exercise

Commissioner Peterson discussed the Blanket Exercise. It would take approximately an hour and a half and consists of a Blessing, a Meal and the Exercise. The Commission would like to invite the Human Rights Commission and the City Council. The tentative date for the Blanket Exercise will be April 8th after the City Council meeting, scheduled at Yanmar Arena.

8. Band Map

The Pokegama Band Map is a map being researched by Karen Noyce of the inhabited lands of the area prior to the Pokegama Reservoir being created. When completed, the Arts & Culture Commission will continue to discuss how they can invest in and assist with the map's structure for public display.

9. Mayor's Art Award Review

The Mayor's Art Award is an award for businesses that support the arts. Out of four nominations from the Arts & Commission, the public chose the "Night Makers Market". They were awarded the newly created award, now the standard, of a blue pinecone with their name on it to display.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

City Administrator Tom Pagel said that the Blandin Foundation is looking to move the mural on their building to another location.

This Friday, January 5th, 2024, Jon Bauer's exhibit opens at the MacRostie.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

BUSINESS:

3. Riverfest 2024

UPDATES:

4. NW Neighborhood Art Project/Park Design

5. Blanket Exercise

6. Band Map

ADJOURN:

Motion made by Commissioner Gorman to adjourn, Seconded by Commissioner Zabinski. Voting Yea: Commissioner Zabinski, Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich and Commissioner Slaubaugh.

Meeting adjourned at 4:43pm
Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Lyman