



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

**ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, January 07, 2025**  
**3:45 PM**

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof, the Arts & Culture Commission will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 3:45 pm in City Hall Council Chambers at 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

Commission Chair Hedlund called the meeting to order at 3:49pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Commissioner Jennifer Gorman  
Commissioner Kari Hedlund  
Commissioner Myrna Peterson  
Commissioner Amanda Lamppa  
Commissioner Angie Miskovich  
City Administrator Tom Pagel  
MacRostie Liaison, Art Shop Manager, Caleb Christianson

ABSENT

Commissioner Aaron Squadroni  
Commissioner Derek Fox  
Commissioner Sara Slaubaugh

PUBLIC INPUT: (if anyone wishes to address the Commission)

None

SETTING THE AGENDA:

**Motion made by Commissioner Peterson, Seconded by Commissioner Gorman to add two items to the agenda, the Appointing of Officers and to recognize the Resignation of newly appointed Commissioner Ashlee Lehner. Voting Yea: Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

APPROVE MINUTES:

1. Approve December 3, 2024, Minutes

**Motion made by Commissioner Gorman, Seconded by Commissioner Lamppa to approve the December 3rd, 2024, Minutes. Voting Yea: Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich**

FINANCIALS:

2. Approve December 31, 2024, Financials

**Motion made by Commissioner Gorman, Seconded by Commissioner Peterson to approve the December 31, 2024, Financials. Voting Yea: Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich**

BUSINESS:

3. Children's Light Drawings

3A. Agenda Addition: Appointing Officers

Commissioner Gorman nominated Commission Chair Kari Hedlund to another term as the Chair of the Arts and Culture Commission, which she accepted. Jennifer Gorman was nominated by Commissioner Lampa as the Vice Chair of the Arts and Culture Commission, and she accepted.

**Motion made by Commissioner Peterson, Seconded by Commissioner Lamppa to approve Kari Hedlund as the Commission Chair and Jennifer Gorman as the Vice Chair. Voting Yea: Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich**

3B. Agenda Addition: Recognize the Resignation of Ashlee Lehner

This item will go to the City Council for their approval and the Commission recognized that they still have a vacancy and City Administrator Tom Pagel asked the Commission to encourage folks to apply.

3. The Commission discussed the Children's Light Drawings which could start with Christmas and maybe become a future "Special Event". Commissioner Gorman to talk to Amanda Tuttle of Twisted Metal and contacting PW Director Matt Wegwerth and PW Superintendent Kevin Koetz to ask what they would need regarding fasteners for poles etc.

4. Commissioner Terms

The Commission discussed the Commissioner Terms and a commissioner can serve two terms (3 years each) and then must take a break from service. It was stated that once you are not on the Commission, you don't have to be off a full term, and if a vacancy happens, they can reapply and serve.

5. February Worksession Planning

Commission Chair Hedlund asked that all of the Commissioners look at the GR Implementation Plan (found on the City Website under Arts & Culture Commission) and City Administrator Tom Pagel will go through it at the February Worksession meeting.

6. Mobility Mania Event at Judy Garland Festival

Commissioner Peterson stated that the record-breaking Mobility Mania wheelchair event is scheduled for June 21st, 2025, kicking off the Thursday prior. It's coming together and the Guinness Book of World records will be setting it up and marketing it globally. The event will include a scavenger hunt, food trucks, Wizard of OZ 85th Anniversary showing and other activities. At this time there is no Budget set, but by the March Arts & Culture Commission meeting she will have an update on the Event, their funding needs and then will check with the Commission to see if there is interest in sponsoring their June 21st, 2025, event.

UPDATES:

7. NE Neighborhood Art Project

At this time, there is no update. City Administrator Tom Pagel will follow up with Ed Eck regarding an interpretive sign.

8. Blandin Mural

Commissioner Gorman is looking into a quote to partner with the high school print shop for the murals.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Gorman brought up that she would like to have a discussion on a proposal for spaces for artists at Central School. The City Administrator Tom Pagel suggested that she talk with the City Community Development Director Rob Mattei and the Economic Development Authority regarding an Artist's Area within Central School.

Caleb Christiansen spoke that he is now the Art Shop and Design Manager at the MacRostie. He would like to add "MacRostie Happenings" to the next agenda in March and said that there is some shifting of roles at this time as Emily Calson is back at the MacRostie.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

REGULAR MEETING BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes
2. Approve Financials

WORKSESSION MEETING:

1. Grand Rapids Implementation Plan

ADJOURN:

**Motion made by Commissioner Gorman, Seconded by Commissioner Lamppa to adjourn at 4:50pm. Voting Yea: Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich**

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Lyman