



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

**ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, January 04, 2022**  
**3:45 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:51pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:

Commissioner Kari Hedlund

Commissioner Ed Zabinski

Commissioner Myrna Peterson

Commissioner Gail Otteson

Commissioner Ann-Marie Erickson

Also present representing the City was Will Richter - Library Director and John Bauer formerly of KAXE.

1. Appoint Commission Officials

The Appointment of Commission Officials was made for both the Commission Chair and Vice Chair.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Zabinski to nominate Commissioner Kari Hedlund as the Commission Chair, second by Commissioner Erickson. All in favor, motion passed.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Zabinski to nominate Commissioner Gail Otteson as the Vice Chair, second by Commissioner Erickson. All in favor, motion passed.**

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

None.

SETTING THE AGENDA:

**Motion made by Commissioner Zabinsky to approve the Agenda as printed, second by Commissioner Peterson. All in favor, motion passed.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

APPROVE MINUTES:

**Motion was made by Commissioner Hedlund to approve the Commission Minutes from 11-2-21, second by Commissioner Otteson. All in favor, motion passed.**

2. Approve Minutes from Tuesday November 2, 2021

**Motion was made to approve the November 2, 2021 Minutes by Commissioner Hedlund, second by Commissioner Otteson. All in favor, motion passed.**

FINANCIALS:

3. Review Financial Report from November 2021

Review Financial Report from December 2021

**On a call of roll, all in favor of accepting the financials, motion passed.**

BUSINESS:

4. Art Plan & Goal Setting

The new Storm Drain Design Class is in the process of being set up. It is actually more like a "Year 2" item and not a "Year 3" just yet.

The City operating budget was set by the City Council at the December 20th, 2021 City Council Meeting. There will not be much in the form of capital funding this year, but there will be approximately \$7,500 in operating money.

Discussion regarding the "Year 3" theme. Looking at neighborhood liaisons, recruit from a few, for example where should the sculpture go in different neighborhoods such as the NW which has an identity. It was also discussed that the Commission could ask the elected officials who are connected to different areas of the community to assist. Also, there was a suggestion to possibly partner with the Human Rights Commission about addressing the themes in the neighborhood art. Because, it is how each quadrant sees themselves, in part to create social cohesion.

A subcommittee was formed for the neighborhood liasons, with Commissioner Zabinski, to talk to Councilmember Connelly, Commissioner Erickson to talk to Leah Friesen of the Human Rights Commission and Commissioner Otteson volunteered to do some contacting and to set up some talking points.

5. Arts Liason

There is no update on this at this time.

6. Meeting Frequency

**Motion made by Commissioner Otteson to change the meeting frequency to every other month for the Commission, second by Commissioner Peterson. All in favor, motion passed.**

The Arts & Culture Commission will continue to be held on the first Tuesday of the odd months (every other month) in the calendar year at 3:45pm.

7. KAXE Art Project Description

Guest John Bauer, addressed the Commission regarding the riverfront park area located between the Library up to and including the pedestrian bridge.

Mr. Bauer stated that the Mississippi riverfront is in need of enhancement, cleaning up of brush etc in order to be more inviting. He was recently inspired by a park called Harmony Park (which can be seen at "freenotesharmonypark.com"). The enhancement would be over a few year and would also involve the city for cleanup and funding. There is some Legacy money through KAXE which would have a time frame for it's use and Library Director Will Richter said that the Library Board would also like to hear more about the enhancement project.

A subcommittee was formed of Commissioner Peterson, Library Director Will Richter and John Bauer.

UPDATES:

8. Artist in Residence - David Dobbs

At this time there is no update.

9. Mayor's Art Award

On December 20th, 2021, the Mayor's Art Award went to the City council. We now need to solicit nominations for the next award for 2022. There are many avenues to get the word out, Letter to the Editor, a paid advertisement in the Herald Review, local radio advertisements, the MacRostie, the City and Library websites, Facebook and possibly ICTV. These advertisements should all be with the new verbiage with updated dates. The nominations should be in by March 1st, 2022, so the advertisements should go out as soon as possible.

**Motion was made to move forward with the submission process and authorize the city staff to place advertisements for the Mayor's Art Award by Commissioner Peterson and second by Commissioner Erickson. All in favor, motion passed.**

10. Duane Goodwin

At this time there is no update. Except that the City Administrator, Tom Pagel, when he receives information will update us on his health and the possible displaying of the artwork around town. MNDOT is still working on fixing the site's sidewalk (on 169) as it is still a dangerous walk to the artwork. This is part of the accessibility goal for the Riverfront and Commissioner Peterson said that the autonomous are planning on not coming out until September.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None at this time.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

BUSINESS:

3. Plaque Timeline
4. Adding Commissioners - Numbers in By-Laws
5. Art Plan & Goal Setting
6. KAXE Art Project Subcommittee Report

UPDATES:

7. Artist in Residence - David Dobbs
8. Mayor's Art Award
9. Duane Goodwin
10. Autonomous Vehicles
- 12 Kid's Project - Stormwater Class?

ADJOURN:

**Motion to adjourn at 5:04pm by Commissioner Zabinski, second by Commissioner Peterson. All in favor, motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted by CLyman