



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

ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 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, October 7th, 2025, at 3:45pm in the City Hall Council Chambers at 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Hedlund at 3:48pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Commissioner Kari Hedlund
Commissioner Aaron Squadroni
Commissioner Amanda Lamppa
Commissioner Angie Miskovich
Commissioner Sara Slaubaugh
Commissioner Nancy Jacobson
City Liaison, City Administrator, Tom Pagel
MacRostie Program Manager, Emily Carlson

ABSENT

Commissioner Jennifer Gorman
Commissioner Myrna Peterson
Commissioner Derek Fox

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

David Marty, who resides across the street from the Ice Lake Swing Sculpture came to the meeting to let the Commission know that they are delighted to have the artwork across the street.

SETTING THE AGENDA:

Motion made by Commissioner Lamppa, Seconded by Commissioner Miskovich to approve the agenda. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Squadroni, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Slaubaugh, Commissioner Jacobson

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

APPROVE MINUTES:

1. Approve Minutes from September 2nd, 2025

Motion made by Commissioner Lamppa, Seconded by Commissioner Slaubaugh to approve the September 2nd, 2025, Minutes. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Squadroni, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Slaubaugh, Commissioner Jacobson

FINANCIALS:

2. No change to Financials for September 2025

BUSINESS:

3. Human Rights Commission

This item was tabled.

4. MacRostie Happenings

Macroctie Program Manager, Emily Carlson, said that there are new galleries that have opened up and one at the Reif as well. There is a studio tour Saturday and they are planning for the upcoming Holiday Shop and Wreath Auction.

Commissioner Squadroni arrived at 4pm.

5. Children's Light Drawings

There is no movement with this item and the Commissioners decided to push it out to January 2026. However, the Commission did discuss what to do with the funds that were earmarked for the Children's Light Drawings. Some options discussed were, youth sponsorships, various school sponsorships, signs and rock benches as art. The Commission will bring more ideas in November and be prepared to make a decision.

6. Mayor's Art Award

Macroctie Program Manager, Emily Carlson reminded the Commission that they need to submit two nominations for the Mayors Art Award. So far there have been two submissions already, Rapids Brewing and Stained Glass. Please have your nominations ready for the November 4th, 2025, Meeting.

UPDATES:

7. Riverfest 2025 Review

The Fire in the Village participated in Riverfest and they had good attention and it was a good experience.

8. Greg Mueller

So far, the responses regarding the Ice Lake Swing and its sign, have been good. Commissioner Hedlund believes that the statue by the river would also be better received if it too had a sign, with some history. City Liaison, City Administrator, Tom Pagel said he will get something together and reminded the Commission that the ribbon cutting will be on October 20th, 2025, at 4:00pm.

9. Worksession Recap

Commission Chair Hedlund would like to formerly present the documents that they worked on from the Worksession such as the Art Placement Plan, the Adoption and Acquisition Plan, the Roadmap and the Implementation Plan to the City Council. She would then like them to be uploaded to the city website.

In 2026, the Commission can begin to decide on the area for the next neighborhood art project, probably in SE or SW. The 2027 Project money (% of) will not be available until 2028.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

10. Crystal Lake Art Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Oct 20, 2025, 4pm

This was mentioned under Item #8.

Reminder to redo Commissioner's Terms for January 2026.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

BUSINESS:

3. Budget Items
4. Human Rights Commission
5. Mayor's Art Award

ADJOURN:

Motion made by Commissioner Squadroni, Seconded by Commissioner Jacobson to adjourn at 4:25pm. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Squadroni, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Slaubaugh, Commissioner Jacobson

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Lyman