



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

## **ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, April 01, 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, April 1, 2025, at 3:45pm in City Hall Council Chambers at 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Hedlund at 3:50pm.

### **ROLL CALL:**

#### **PRESENT**

Commissioner Kari Hedlund  
Commissioner Myrna Peterson  
Commissioner Aaron Squadroni  
Commissioner Amanda Lamppa  
Commissioner Angie Miskovich  
Commissioner Derek Fox  
City Administrator, Tom Pagel  
MacRostie Program Manager, Emily Carlson

#### **ABSENT**

Commissioner Jennifer Gorman  
Commissioner Sara Slaubaugh

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

None.

### **SETTING THE AGENDA:**

**Motion made by Commissioner Lamppa, Seconded by Commissioner Peterson to add the Hill Annex Mine State Park Machinery and Equipment Letter to the Agenda under Business. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Squadroni, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Fox**

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

### **APPROVE MINUTES:**

1. Approve Minutes for both the Regular and Worksession Meetings from March 4, 2025

**Motion made by Commissioner Lamppa, Seconded by Commissioner Squadroni to approve both the Regular and Worksession Meeting Minutes from March 4, 2025. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Squadroni, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Fox**

FINANCIALS: There have been no changes to the Arts & Culture Commission's Financials.

**Motion made by Commissioner Peterson, Seconded by Commissioner Miskovich to approve that there was no change in the financials. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Squadroni, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Fox**

BUSINESS:

2. MacRostie Happenings

MacRostie Program Manager Emily Carlson gave an update on the MacRostie happenings:

- First Friday has a new Gallery, featuring Northhomes Youth from 4-7pm.
- The MacRostie is taking submissions for the Little Big Show. Anyone can submit and it is open up until mid, to the end of April, which starts at the end of May.
- The 2026 Gallery will be open for submissions soon.
- The Artist in Residence is the same right now.
- There was a mention of Fire in the Village, in Old Central School.
- Lastly, Emily will be back assisting the Arts & Culture Commission

3. Children's Light Drawings

City Administrator Tom Pagel mentioned that the City Engineer Matt Wegwerth reached out to the city's snowflake vendor regarding the children's art. Commissioner Gorman is absent this evening and may have another contact for the Children's Light Drawings as well. This item was then tabled until the May meeting.

4. Buckets

The Commission discussed the Buckets, where they want to allocate their budget, of which they came up with three, Professional Services - 50%, Public Art - 30% and Partnerships - 20%.

**Motion made by Commissioner Peterson, Seconded by Commissioner Squadroni to adopt the three buckets for their budget as Professional Services- 50%, Public Art-30% and Partnerships-20%. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Squadroni, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Fox**

4A. Discussion of the Hill Annex Mine State Park Machinery and Equipment that is being rehomed as the site is returning to active mining. The email that was provided by Commissioner Squadroni will be sent to the Commissioners so that they can see if anything can

be repurposed for art.

## UPDATES:

### 5. Worksession Recap

The Commission reviewed the worksession notes, the Implementation Plan from Commission Chair Hedlund and will review it on a monthly basis. She asked that the Commissioners read thru it and discuss at next month's meeting.

City Administrator Pagel said that there is no funding from Construction Projects this year. The Commission can plan to work with an artist for 2027 for the SE/SW area of the city, as there will be funds available from a 2026 Construction Project. City Staff will provide an update each year on construction funding.

### 6. Mobility Mania

Commissioner Peterson spoke to the Commission regarding the events scheduled for the Judy Garland Festival on June 19th through the 21st. This will also feature the Mobility Mania event which will try to break the record for the largest group of dancing wheelchairs. There will be so many events throughout the weekend from the Itasca Orchestra playing for the dancing wheelchairs, the kid's scavenger hunt, to the anniversary event showing of the Wizard of Oz. Commission Chair Hedlund asked what the ask is and Commissioner Peterson said they would probably like some kind of partnership towards the filming of the event and that there are different partnership levels from the Bronze-\$500, Silver-\$1,000, to Gold and Emerald.

The Commission discussed Commissioner Squadroni's idea of the possibility of engaging the film making community to document the art being made during the event. More discussion on this topic at next month's meeting.

### 7. Greg Mueller

City Administrator Tom Pagel showed the commission pictures of Greg Mueller working on the art for the NE neighborhood art project. He will have more next meeting and possibly post once the art project is more completed.

### 8. Blandin Mural

The Commission discussed when the mural would get taken down, where it would be put back up and what would be the costs. At this time, they will keep these items in their minds as it moves forward.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Hedlund announced that Riverfest lineup will be announced around April 25th.

## SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

## BUSINESS:

### 1. MacRostie Happenings

2. Children's Light Drawings

UPDATES:

3. Hill Annex Mine
4. Worksession Recap
5. Judy Garland Event/Mobility Mania
6. Greg Mueller

ADJOURN:

**Motion made by Commissioner Lamppa, Seconded by Commissioner Miskovich to adjourn the meeting at 5:10pm. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hedlund, Commissioner Peterson, Commissioner Squadroni, Commissioner Lamppa, Commissioner Miskovich, Commissioner Fox**

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Lyman