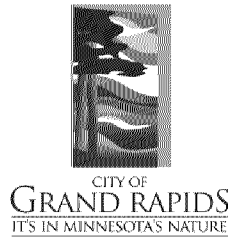


ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a regular meeting of the Arts & Culture Commission will be held in Conference Room 2A at City Hall, 420 N Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744 on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 3:45 PM.

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Public Input
3. Setting the Agenda
4. Approve minutes: March 10, 2020 Regular meetings.
5. Financials: Current revenue/expenditure report
6. New Business
 - Conduct artist interview for sculpture project
 - Consider awarding sculpture project to select artist
7. Set Agenda For Next Meeting:
8. Adjourn



ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof the regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission was held in Conference Room 2A of the Grand Rapids City Hall, 420 N. Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 3:46 PM.

Call of Roll: On a call of roll, the following members were present: Anne-Marie Erickson, Jessie Siiter, David Marty, Tom Sippola, Ed Zabinski, Kari Hedlund. Absent: Kayla Aubid, Gail Otteson, Myrna Peterson.

Staff Present: Tom Pagel, Lynn DeGrio, Chad Sterle

Public Input: None.

Setting the Agenda:

Advanced Open Meeting Law discussion to beginning of meeting.

Motion by Hedlund, second by Erickson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Open Meeting Law: City Attorney Chad Sterle reviewed basics of open meeting law. The League of Minnesota Cities is scheduled to provide a comprehensive training in June and all members of Boards and Commissions will be encouraged to attend.

Correspondence: After review of letter from Ms. Sjödin, it is recommended that an art map be sent to her when completed and consider inviting her to the reveal of the chickadee mural.

Approval of Minutes: Noted name error on page one, Rick Nyberg should be Kent Nyberg.

Motion by Erickson, second by Siiter to approve the minutes for February 4, 2020 as amended. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Financials: Reviewed and accepted financials as presented.

Artist in Residence: Overview providing clarification of program.

Old Business:

Discuss Northbank mural project: Noted that Rick Harding is out until March 16th and Mr. Pagel will contact him after that date to schedule a meeting.

Poetry Contest: Members reviewed proposal from Michael Goldberg. This would be based on contract for professional service funded by Commission budget, so no need for RFP. Committee consisting of Tom Pagel and Commissioners Erickson and Siiter to work with Mr. Goldberg to iron out details.

Motion by Marty, second by Hedlund to approve concept as presented. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public forum on Public Art: Mr. Pagel will contact Jen Krava, Forecast Public Art, to determine her availability. Commissioner Siiter will advise if the Downtown Business District wishes to participate/host.

Mayor's Arts Award: Award for 2020 winner, KAXE, will be a sculpture with name plate created by artist Collin Clough and will be presented at the Chamber's Annual Meeting by Commissioner Marty. 2019 award winner, Brewed Awakenings, donated funds to be used for the 2020 award. City may not purchase tickets to Chamber event for the winners, however, Brewed Awakenings has the option to purchase tickets and present them to KAXE for attendance. Concerns are expressed on setting a precedent for future award years.

2020 Art RFQ Update: Deadline is March 20th. Mr. Pagel distributed scoring sheet format from last year for review, noting suggested changes: addition of score column for experience in Native American Art. Subcommittee formed including Commissioners Hedlund, Marty and Aubid or Otteson.

New Business

New member packet development: Mr. Pagel will put together with assistance from Commissioners Hedlune, Otteson and Siiter. Will consider asking prior member, Kathy Dodge, to provide new member orientation.

City Email: All members of City Boards and Commissions will be provided with a City email. Training will be provided at the April 7, 2020 meeting.

Announcements: Itasca Community Chorus will perform on March 29, 2020 at 3:00 at Methodist Church.

Items for next agenda:

- Northbank mural project
- Poetry Contest
- Public Forum update
- Update for arts award process moving forward.
- New Member Packet development
- 2020 Art RFQ Selection
- City Email

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Lynn DeGrio, Director of H.R.

**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS
ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION**

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JULY 31, 2020**

With Comparative Totals for the Period Ending December 31, 2019

	<u>Actual 7/31/2020</u>	<u>Actual 12/31/2019</u>
Arts & Culture Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,000
Supplies	-	160
Seminar/Meetings/School	-	-
Mayor's Art Award	489	308
Facility Rent	-	-
Utility Box Wraps	-	768
Art Mapping Project	-	1,000
Operating Transfer to Capital Proj 418	-	1,550
	<u>7,011</u>	<u>1,214</u>
Balance Available	<u><u>7,011</u></u>	<u><u>1,214</u></u>



GRAND RAPIDS, MN

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Indigenous Peoples and Lands
Sculpture
Art Opportunity

Request for Qualifications

About Grand Rapids

Grand Rapids is a unique blend of small town hospitality and character with big City conveniences and opportunities. Grand Rapids offers an excellent quality of life to residents of the region with outstanding educational opportunities, excellent medical care, exceptional cultural, natural, and recreational amenities, and an unequaled sense of community spirit. Grand Rapids provides residents safe, friendly, affordable housing and inclusive neighborhoods that retain and enhance nature in the City. Residents and visitors can move around the City with equal ease by car, bicycle, or walking. Grand Rapids welcomes and supports a diverse mix of thriving businesses and industries that provide quality jobs, promising careers, and economic vitality. Grand Rapids is a welcoming gateway to Minnesota's Northwoods tourism.

Grand Rapids, MN, population 10,869 (U.S. Census Bureau 2010), is located in Northeastern Minnesota on the banks of the Mississippi River and is the Itasca County seat. It's situated in the midst of numerous lakes and forests. A small City known for, logging, regional services, the arts, and its Native American and settler cultures — Grand Rapids is a place of many narratives. Grand Rapids is predominately white (96.5%), with Native American (3.1%), Latino (1.2%), Black (1.1%), and Asian (.9%) racial and ethnic minorities (U.S. Census Bureau 2010). Fifteen miles west of Grand Rapids lies the eastern edge of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation; Native Americans are the largest racial/ethnic minority in Itasca County (4.9%).

The City's name hails from its 3.5-mile stretch of rapids now hidden by a reservoir created by a hydroelectric dam. The hydropower generated by the rapids attracted UPM Blandin's predecessor in 1902. The Mississippi also provided an optimal means of shipping logs to southern population centers. Whereas much of the northeastern Minnesota's "Iron Range" region historically focused on mining, Grand Rapids emerged as a logging town.

Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission

The City Council established the Arts and Culture Commission in 2013. It currently functions as a volunteer commission, reporting to the City Council, with nine members and a City staff liaison. Commissioners are selected by the Council and serve a three-year term. The Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission envisions a community inspired by the power of its abundant arts and culture. They believe:

- the arts pave the way to a welcoming environment for all regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, gender or sexual orientation
- arts and culture combined with recreational opportunities define Grand Rapids as a regional creative destination for relocation, shopping, tourism and entertainment
- the arts contribute to health and well-being by creating aesthetically pleasing places to walk, bicycle, hike and play
- engagement in the arts helps vulnerable populations build confidence, cope with stress and aid with healing
- carefully planned and artistic street design contributes to a vibrant downtown and accommodates all modes of transportation, helping to make movement accessible to all
- the beauty of the natural environment of the Mississippi River, lakes and forests is a defining and valued characteristic of our community
- accessible, quality arts educational opportunities, cradle through career and on through retirement, are essential to the development of a creative community
- communities with robust arts and culture are more prosperous and attract large and small businesses, reward entrepreneurship, and provide meaningful careers to residents

The Sculpture Project

The Arts and Culture Commission projects will consist of one sculpture with a concentration on *Indigenous Peoples and lands*. Fifteen miles west of Grand Rapids lies the edge of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe reservation. The commission believes that history and public art could amplify and highlight the culture, voices, and stories of Native Americans including tribal citizens – past, present, and future. Additionally, that Indigenous artists should lead public art projects throughout the city. Many signs around town have Anishinaabe language on them, and projects such as this will continue to strengthen the connections between citizens of Grand Rapids and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. **This Request for Qualifications is for the one sculpture project related to the concept of Indigenous Peoples and Lands.**

One artist will be commissioned to create the sculpture that will be sited at a Mississippi River Park, located at the NE corner of the intersections of Pokegama Avenue (TH 169) and SE 1st Street (River Road). [see following pages for location maps].

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Artists are hereby invited to submit qualifications to be considered to participate in the design phase for the public art opportunities described below.

The Arts and Culture Commission will review eligible applications and select a group of up to three finalists/finalist teams to invite to Grand Rapids for an in-person interview. Each artist/team will receive a stipend of \$750 to cover fees associated with design and travel to in-person interviews. Further information will be provided to the finalists.

Grand Rapids, MN | **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LAND THEMED - SCULPTURES** |
Public Art Opportunity

Upon completion of an in-person interview, one artist/artist team will be commissioned to develop, fabricate, and install the permanent artwork. The City will cover the expense of site/base preparation for the sculpture. Additional requirements will be outlined in instructions to finalists. Please see the following timeline for further details.

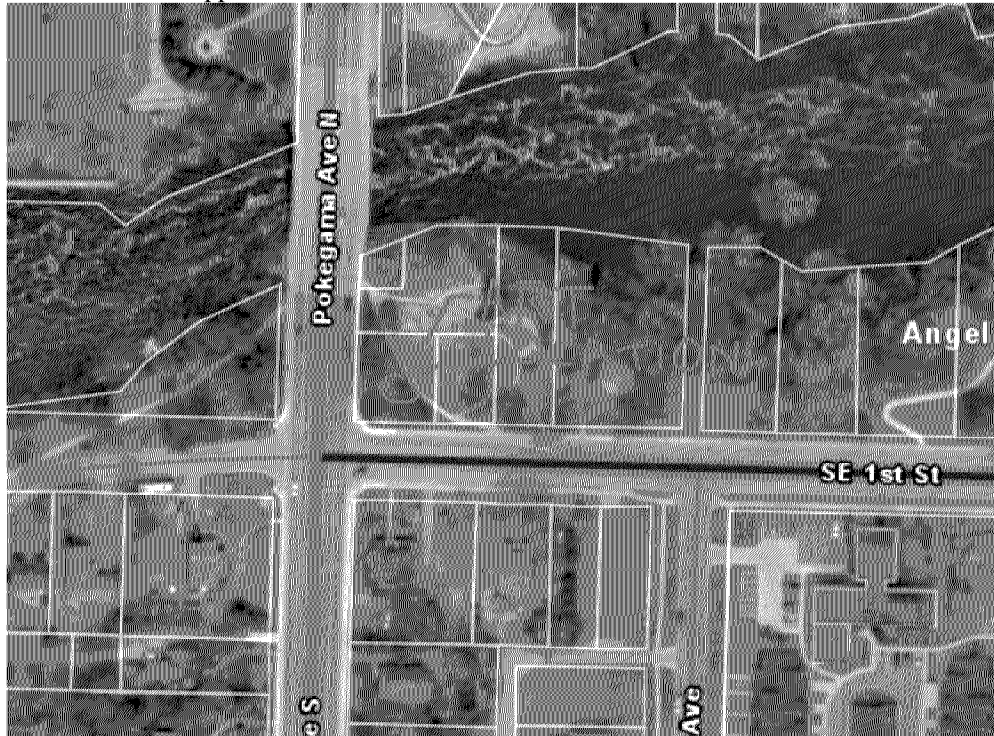
Budget: \$38,000

The budget the sculpture is \$38,000. More information about the sites will be made available to the selected artist[s].

Site Information

Sculptures will be located at three pre-selected sites in Downtown Grand Rapids.

Location: Mississippi River Park



Selection Criteria

Phase 1: Selection of artist/designers will be based on the following criteria:

- Quality of introductory letter.
- Quality of work samples.
- Ability of artist/team to successfully complete projects based on resume and prior work experience.
- Experience with creating and appropriately generating Native American artwork.

Phase 2: Design concepts must meet the following criteria:

- Design concepts are engaging, interactive in some way, and evoke curiosity of passers-by either through color, movement, material, whimsicality, or other considerations.
- Artworks advances Indigenous people and their history and connection to the Mississippi River, either physically or spiritually, and consider natural processes in some way.
- Artworks should take into consideration all seasons in MN, and should be safe and low maintenance.
- Artworks convey artistic excellence and innovation.

Additional considerations:

- Art should be welcoming, accessible and appropriate to the site.
- Artists should address how they would work with the Arts and Culture Commission to engage the community in some way.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be experienced visual artists or artist-led teams residing in the state of Minnesota, with special preference given to artists from Northern Minnesota who have experience in creating Native American artwork.
- Applicant must provide evidence of producing at least two commissioned public art projects of a similar scale and budget within the past ten years.

We are committed to a policy of providing opportunities to people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, veteran status, or physical ability.

Selection Process Overview

The Arts and Culture Commission will review applications and select up to three artists or teams to participate in the design phase. Each artist/team will be paid a stipend of \$750 to prepare design concepts. Deliverables include graphic depictions of the proposed artwork and a brief narrative description. Artists/teams will have approximately **seven weeks** to prepare preliminary concepts, including the presentations to the Arts and Culture Commission.

Schedule

- February 14, 2020 – RFQ announced
- March 20, 2020 – Deadline for RFQ submission; all required materials must be received by 4PM CST.
- April 7, 2020 – Committee review and selection of 3 finalists
- April 13, 2020 – City Council approves contracts with selected artists/teams for preliminary designs
- June 2, 2020 – Preliminary design concepts presented to Arts + Culture Commission
- August 10, 2020 – City Council approves final contract with selected artist or team. Commence design development.

Grand Rapids, MN | **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LAND THEMED - SCULPTURES** |
Public Art Opportunity

- September of 2020: Based on approval of final design, artist/team commences with fabrication
- May/June of 2021: projects installed/project completion

Required Submission Materials (in digital format only)

Please provide the following text in 12-point font, in a single PDF document:

- Contact information for lead artist and, if applicable, all team members
- Three references (contact information only) for recently completed projects
- One-page letter describing interest in project and approach to design; please include statement addressing eligibility criteria
- One-page listing of each work sample; please provide a brief description and budget for each work sample
- One-page biographical information or resume; if you have multiple team members, please keep biographical information for each team member to one page
- Work sample: Up to 10 digital images of your recent and relevant projects. Individuals and teams are limited to 10 images maximum. Save all images as standard JPEG and label each with applicant's full name and number in sequence corresponding with list of work samples.

NOTE: Do not submit a proposal for artworks at this time.

Please submit all RFQ materials via email to: tpagel@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us. All materials must be received by **4 p.m., CST, Friday, March 20, 2020**. No RFQs will be accepted after this time. If you need clarification or further information, contact Tom Pagel, City Administrator at: tpagel@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us or 218.326.7626

