





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

*CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION  
CONFERENCE ROOM 2B – GRAND RAPIDS CITY HALL  
REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017 – 3:45 PM*

**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 2B of the Grand Rapids City Hall, 420 N Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at 3:45 pm

**CALL OF ROLL:** On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Sonja Merrild, Kathy Dodge, Lois Bendix, David Marty, John Connelly, David Dobbs, Harry Smith and Myrna Peterson.

**Staff Present:** Amy Dettmer and Michele Palkki

Commissioner Merrild called the meeting to order at 3:45 pm.

**SETTING THE AGENDA**      Nothing to add

**CORRESPONDENCE**      Nothing to report

**MINUTES**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting held on November 7, 2017.**

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DODGE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SMITH TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 7, 2017 AS PRESENTED. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**FINANCIALS**

Commissioner Merrild reported that there was not enough time to put together the Forecast Public Art placement. This item will be an item placed on the January 2018 agenda for discussion.

**PROGRESS REPORTS**

**Pop Up Park – Commissioner Dodge**

A discussion was held regarding the pop up park and whether to continue in the future. It was determined that the location, the old Kremer's Parking Lot, was not a good location. With truck traffic and the business of Highway 2 it was too noisy and also since this property was not owned by the City a more permanent location could be considered.

This will be suspended for now and possibly looked at in 2018. The Commission thanked those who helped with this project.

### **Arts Award – Commissioner Marty**

Commissioner Marty reported that he had spoken to Bud Stone from the Chamber of Commerce and the information was sent to all the Chamber Members.

This information will be relayed to our Communications Specialist to put on the City Website, Facebook, and the Reader Board January 1, 2018.

Ms. Dettmer reported that she would take care of submitting a Press Release to the Grand Rapids Herald Review January 1, 2018.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Goals and Objectives**

Commissioner Merrild reported that Ms. Dettmer met with City Administrator Tom Pagel regarding 2018 Goals and Outcomes. Every Commission for the City has submitted the goals as part of the City Wide Goals and Outcomes.

- ✓ Complete an “Art Placement Plan” (including current and future opportunities for pop-up parks / activities).
- ✓ Collaborate with Human Rights Commission to continue to promote Ojibwe signage.
- ✓ Work with the City to create an amendment to the Downtown Development Plan that specifically addresses the issue of fragmentation and pedestrian wayfinding through artistic streetscape interventions and additional infrastructure.
- ✓ Clarify and streamline city rules related to street festivals, performances in parks, and street performers via fact and FAQ sheets and a volunteer arts help desk or improved online access.
- ✓ Form a working group to advance design, management, and funding options for a future riverfront venue along the Mississippi.
- ✓ Develop a pedestrian bridge over the Mississippi and enhance with artistic elements and good design.

#### **Food Trucks**

Commissioner Dodge followed up that downtown businesses support allowing food trucks on public property. The Commission would like to meet with city officials to have a discussion to change the current ordinance.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Select Chair/Vice-Chair/Secretary**

A discussion was held regarding the offices that need to be selected for 2018.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DODGE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MARTY TO NOMINATE THE FOLLOWING OFFICES FOR CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY.**

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Sonja Merrild</b>
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	<b>John Connolly</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>David Dobbs</b>

**Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Downtown and Business Corridor Grant**

Commissioner Dodge reported that the City applied for the IRRRB Downtown and Business Corridor Grant. The grant will work to revitalize the Central Business District using art: 3 murals, 3 sculptures, sidewalk poetry and new signage, as well as three new downtown gallery entrances that are ADA compliant.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

*Michele Palkki*

The next regular meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission will be January 2, 2018.



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**SETTING THE AGENDA**      Nothing to add

**CORRESPONDENCE**      Nothing to report

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Ms. Dettmer reported that she would take care of submitting a Press Release to the Grand Rapids Herald Review January 1, 2018.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Goals and Objectives**

Commissioner Merrild reported that Ms. Dettmer met with City Administrator Tom Pagel regarding 2018 Goals and Outcomes. Every Commission for the City has submitted the goals as part of the City Wide Goals and Outcomes.

- ✓ Create public art policies and develop a program that consistently contributes to the vitality and economic development in the city.
- ✓ Connect arts, heritage, and the natural environment to help promote Grand Rapids distinctive identity.
- ✓ Infuse and align existing city policies, plans, and projects with arts and culture to help achieve broader community health and connectivity goals.
- ✓ Facilitate community spaces and programming that welcome the entire community.
- ✓ Increase the amount of inclusive arts and cultural offerings through public-private partnerships.

As part of the Commission's goals the following have been added for future discussion

- Pop Up Park - question to continue this or not and if so what locations to look at
- River Venue – keep this as part of the commissions goal to help this become a reality
- Pedestrian Bridge – what is the commissions goals for including art and culture

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**NEW BUSINESS**

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<b>Chair</b>	<b>Sonja Merrild</b>
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	<b>John Connolly</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>David Dobbs</b>

**Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Downtown and Business Corridor Grant**

Commissioner Dodge reported that the City was awarded the IRRRB Downtown and Business Corridor Grant. The grant will work to revitalize the Central Business District using art: 3 murals, 3 sculptures, sidewalk poetry and new signage.


There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

*Michele Palkki*

The next regular meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission will be December 5, 2017.

**From:** Wufoo  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 4:13 PM  
**To:** grandrapidsarts@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Artist in Residence Application [#25]

<b>Name *</b>	Kathy Mommsen
<b>Address</b>	 <u>2770 Xerxes Avenue South, Apartment 102 Minneapolis, MN 55416 United States</u>
<b>Phone Number *</b>	<u>(952) 378-7046</u>
<b>Email</b>	<u>kathymommsen@gmail.com</u>
<b>Website</b>	<u>http://kathymommsen.com</u>

**Genre and description of art: \***

I am ceramic artist that draws on clay. I have been using the vessels as my surface and I am expanding to ceramic wall piece. I work with earthenware clay that fires in electric kilns. The glazing method I use is call black maiolica.

Striving to show the essence of people in action motivates me. To capture human gestures, I draw and sculpt directly on clay while observing a live model. The model and I work as a team, determining and adjusting poses to best describe the gesture that I have selected. Working with models in my studio, connections are made during our conversations. These conversations become part of the vessels.

I use a series of actions to show the drama of the gesture. These poses require the model to move then stop then start again – frequently stopping in awkward/challenging poses. I use trained dancers as models for their ability to be expressive and hold demanding poses.

Like every human action, the ceramic process I use involves many layers. For each layer I observe the model in the same pose over several sessions. During these sessions I sculpt in wet clay, draw and paint in an effort to capture these gestures. Each layer gives me a new surface where I can react to the model. With each new surface I get a restart. The model is both familiar and new. Observing the model at each layer creates images that are raw, expressive and show only the most essential gestures.

**I wish to apply for an artist residency in Central School. I would like to apply for the following time periods. (Check any that will work for you.) \***

- February 15 to May 15, 2018

**I acknowledge that I will be housed with 1 or 2 other artists. I have reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding. I can have art on display and also produce art in the space. I can also hold classes or demonstrations. I agree to work with the other artists so our space is staffed during the Central School hours, which are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Saturday hours are encouraged.**





**2018 Council Goals/Outcomes Data**

**Arts and Culture Initial Submitted Items**

Complete an "Art Placement Plan", which complements the recently adopted Art Adoption/Acquisition Plan (note, this plan may also identify current and future opportunities for pop-up parks / activities)	Arts and Culture Roadmap	Goal 4: use the arts to animate the physical realm and improve connectivity	Create initial public art policies and develop a program that consistently contributes to the vitality and economic development in the city	Arts and Culture Commission
Collaborate with Human Rights Commission to continue to promote Ojibwe signage (throughout City)	Arts and Culture Roadmap	Goal 1: Enhance Grand Rapids' distinctive identity through arts and culture	Connect arts, heritage, and the natural environment to help promote Grand Rapids' distinctive identity	Arts and Culture Commission
Work with City to create an amendment to the Downtown Development Plan that specifically addresses the issue of fragmentation and pedestrian wayfinding through artistic streetscape interventions and additional infrastructure	Arts and Culture Roadmap	Goal 4: use the arts to animate the physical realm and improve connectivity	Infuse and align existing city policies, plans, and projects with arts and culture to help achieve broader community health and connectivity goals	Arts and Culture Commission
Clarify and streamline city rules related to street festivals , performances in parks, and street performers via fact and FAQ sheets and a volunteer arts help desk (or improved online function/access)	Arts and Culture Roadmap	Goal 3: Foster inclusive arts and culture offerings and expand access	Facilitate community spaces and programming that welcome the entire community	Arts and Culture Commission
Based on the 2017 River Front Venue feasibility study, form a representative working group to advance design, management, and funding options for a future riverfront venue along the Mississippi.	Arts and Culture Roadmap	Goal 3: Foster inclusive arts and culture offerings and expand access	Increase the amount of inclusive arts and cultural offerings through public-private partnerships	Arts and Culture Commission
Develop a pedestrian bridge over the Mississippi and enhance with artistic elements and good design	Arts and Culture Roadmap	Goal 4: use the arts to animate the physical realm and improve connectivity	Infuse and align existing city policies, plans, and projects with arts and culture to help achieve broader community health and connectivity goals	Arts and Culture Commission





CONCEPT RENDERING



DEPARTMENT LEGEND

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <span style="color: green;">■</span> BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB | <span style="color: purple;">■</span> RE-LOCATED ADMIN. SPACES |
| <span style="color: blue;">■</span> BUILDING SERVICE     | <span style="color: lightgreen;">■</span> RINK STORAGE         |
| <span style="color: orange;">■</span> CIRCULATION        | <span style="color: lightblue;">■</span> CHILDCARE             |
| <span style="color: yellow;">■</span> INDOOR PLAY AREA   | <span style="color: brown;">■</span> FUTURE TENANT             |
| <span style="color: pink;">■</span> LIGHT REMODEL        | <span style="color: limegreen;">■</span> MEETING ROOMS         |
| <span style="color: grey;">■</span> LOCKER ROOMS         | <span style="color: tan;">■</span> P.T. / O.T. / TRAINING      |

IRA CIVIC CENTER  
PLANS

