

**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
CONFERENCE ROOM 2A – GRAND RAPIDS CITY HALL
REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 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 2A of the Grand Rapids City Hall, 420 N Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Tuesday, November 7, 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, and Myrna Peterson.

Absent: Karen Walker and Harry Smith

Visitors: Katie Marshall

Staff Present: Amy Dettmer and Michele Palkki

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

PUBLIC ART SURVEY – Katie Marshall from MacRostie presented the Grand Rapids Public Art Survey to the City. There were 257 responses to several questions about public art in Grand Rapids.

SETTING THE AGENDA

Added to New Business: Food Trucks on City Property

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARTY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CONNELLY TO APPROVE ADDING FOOD TRUCKS. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

Karen Walker has submitted her letter of resignation. This has been forwarded to the City Council. They will appoint someone to fill the vacated position.

MINUTES

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting held on October 3, 2017.

There were two changes made. Another Hotel has given intent to the City of Grand Rapids their plan to build. Matthew Wegwerth is working on the Public Parking Lot.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DODGE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SMITH TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 3, 2017 with changes noted. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

FINANCIALS There is \$2,200.00 left in the 2017 budget. A question was raised if we could use this money to hire Forecast Public Art to put together a public art placement for Grand Rapids. It was stated that monies available have to stay within the budget year. Permission from the City Council is needed prior to any contract drawn up. Ms. Dettmer will check with the Finance Department on this and get back to the Commission.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Utility Boxes – Commissioner Connelly

Commissioner Connelly reported that he and Commissioner Dobbs have submitted some pictures to Silvertip Graphics for the utility wrap. This project will continue in the spring of 2018, the weather changed quite fast and because the temperature has to be at a certain level for several hours we were not able to get this done this year. Public Utilities have confirmed that they would provide funding in 2018 to work on this project. This is on hold until spring.

Mayor's Arts Award – Commissioner Marty

Commissioner Marty reported that the Eligibility/Timeline and Press Release were included in the packets. This information will be relayed to our Communications Specialist to put on the City Website, Facebook, and the Reader Board January 1, 2018.

Downtown Art Placement – Commissioner Merrild

Commissioner Merrild reported that Commissioners Bendix, Merrild and Katie Marshall, from MacRostie, did a downtown walk regarding potential art placement. This plan, once it is approved, will become part of the Art Adoption Plan.

Commissioner Merrild reported that she would send an interactive map link that Matt Wegwerth put together for the Commission. It is a virtual map of locations for art.

Downtown Art Continued

Commissioner Merrild would like to contract with Forecast Public Art to develop an actual public art placement plan and use the remaining money in the Arts and Culture budget. It was noted that the Commission will need to ask the City Council for permission to contract with this company and that the plan will need to be completed by December 31, 2017 in order to use any unpaid balance.

OLD BUSINESS – Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS

Downtown and Business Corridor Grant

Commissioner Merrild reported that she and Commissioner Dodge met with Community Development Director Rob Mattei regarding an opportunity to apply for an IRRRB Grant for the Central Business Corridor. Ideas could include artistic art walk, poetry engraved in cement, signage, murals, and playground. Mr. Mattei would write the grant; Commissioner Dodge needed to submit a budget and letters of endorsement.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DODGE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MARTY TO REQUEST PERMISSION FROM THE CITY COUNCIL TO SUBMIT A GRANT REQUEST TO IRRRB FOR THE DOWNTOWN AND BUSINESS CORRIDOR. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Goals and Objectives

Commissioner Merrild distributed proposed Goals for 2018.

- Complete Arts Placement Plan
- Collaborate with Human Rights Commission to continue promoting Ojibwe Signage
- Work with the City creating an amendment to the Downtown Development Plan
- Clarify and streamline city rules related to festivals, performances in parks/streets

Commissioner Merrild welcomes input from the Commission and asked each Commissioner bring back ideas to the December meeting to firm up.

Objectives noted in the Grand Rapids MN Arts and Culture Plan

- Connect arts, heritage, and the natural environment to help promote Grand Rapids identity
- Expand opportunities for lifelong arts learning
- Foster inclusive arts and culture offerings and expand access
- Use the arts to animate the physical realm and improve connectivity
- Foster support for artists and arts and culture organizations

Food Truck

A discussion was held regarding the current ordinance the city has regarding food trucks and where they can be placed. It was noted that during First Friday it would be nice to have the availability of a Food Truck at Central School. Food Trucks are approved for private property and during community festivals only.

The Commission would like to have the ordinance changed to allow Food Trucks at Central School and other public locations. Commissioner Dodge will continue to work on this.

Announcements

The City is beginning to work on the 2018 calendar that includes boards and commissions meeting date and time. Because 2018 is an election year the November meeting will need to be changed to another date, there cannot be any public meeting on general election day. It was the consensus of the Commission to schedule the November Commission Meeting for November 13, 2018.

Commissioner Merrild asked the Commission to consider nominations for chair and vice chair for 2018. A vote will need to take place at the December meeting.

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.

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

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2017**

With Comparative Totals for the Period Ending December 31, 2016

	Actual 11/30/2017	Actual 12/31/2016
Arts & Culture Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Supplies	1,800	409
Seminar/Meetings/School	-	700
Video	-	-
Economic Impact Study	-	-
Facility Rent	-	-
Riverfront Feasibility Study	1,000	-
	<u>2,200</u>	<u>3,891</u>
Balance Available	<u>2,200</u>	<u>3,891</u>

Arts & Culture Riverfront Feasibility Study

Grants/Donations

Blandin Foundation	\$ 8,568	\$ 11,432
Reif Center	1,000	
Grand Rapids Arts	250	
KAXE	250	
MacRostie Art Center	250	
Arts & Culture Commission	1,000	
Neighborhood Economic Development Fund	27,184	

Expenses

Riverfront Feasibility Study	<u>(38,502)</u>	<u>(11,432)</u>
Balance Available with Donations	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

2018 Council Goals/Outcome Data

Arts and Culture Initial Submittal Form

Description of Council Member/Department Outcome	Arts and Culture Roadmap	Goal	Action	Responsible Party
Complete an Arts Placement Plan, which complements the recently adopted Arts Adoption/Acquisition Plan	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

2018 Council Goals/Outcome Data

Arts and Culture Initial Submittal Form

Description of Council Member/Department Head Outcome	Arts and Culture Roadmap	Goal	Description	Responsible Party
Complete an Arts Placement Plan, which complements the recently adopted Arts Adoption/Acquisition Plan	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
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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