

ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, November 5, 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a regular meeting of the Arts & Culture Commission will be held in the Conference Room 2B at City Hall, 420 N Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744 on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 3:15 p.m.

Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Public input
3. Correspondence
4. Approve the following Minutes:
 - Regular Meeting October 7, 3:15 pm
 - Special Meeting October 27, 8 am
 - Community Meeting October 27, 6 pm
5. Old Business
 - Arts and Culture Discussion
6. New Business
 - Presentation by Rob Mattei
7. Set agenda for next regular meeting: Tuesday, December 2, 2014
8. Adjourn

Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission Priority List of Initial Action Items

GRMN Creates

an arts and culture roadmap

11/4/14



1. Advocate for the redevelopment/reprogramming of Central School exterior and interior spaces to support more community wide cultural events and attractions.
2. Foster the development of artist spaces such as arts incubators or cooperative galleries.
3. Create a central ice rink in the downtown area and foster the creation of a winter cultural festival.
4. Create a program to use unoccupied buildings downtown as “pop-up” shops that can support entrepreneurs (artistic and otherwise).
5. Help to support arts education initiatives to ensure access to arts and culture by a broad range of children and adults.
6. Increase opportunities for networking, marketing, and resource sharing within the creative community.
7. Increase opportunities for business training/support for arts entrepreneurship.
8. Create a workgroup to look at the potential for supporting more regional level sharing of cultural programming.
9. Develop a workgroup to investigate potential ways to support an inclusive and welcoming Grand Rapids that fosters connections between people of difference races, ethnicities, and income levels and promotes equitable arts access.
10. Develop small-scale public art opportunities within existing capital improvement projects as a first step towards creating a broader art in public places ordinance.
11. Clarify city rules/bureaucracy related to various arts and culture initiatives—i.e. fact sheets on how to get approval to have a performance in a park, get permission to paint a mural, have wine at a reception, etc.
12. Investigate ways to address downtown connectivity / walkability through the production of small-scale interventions such as imaginative crosswalks, or graffiti arts installation near the RR tracks or Horn Bridge.
13. Collaborate with Get Fit Itasca to embed arts and culture into broader community health and connectivity goals.

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
CONFERENCE ROOM 2B- GRAND RAPIDS CITY HALL
REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2014 – 3:15 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, October 7, 2014, at 3:35 pm

CALL OF ROLL: On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Kathy Dodge, Carissa Grosland, Sonja Merrild, David Mary, Todd Driscoll and Lois Bendix

Commissioners absent: Karen Walker, and Michael Davis

Staff Present: Amy Dettmer, Jessica Setness, Michele Palkki

Added Under Old Business: Artist in Residence Discussion

Carissa Grosland left at 3:35 pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting, September 2, 2014; Community Meeting, September 16, 2014 and the Special Meeting, September 17, 2014

Motion by Commissioner Driscoll, second by Commissioner Merrild to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting, September 2, 2014, Community Meeting, September 16, 2014 and Special Meeting, September 17, 2014. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Artist in Residence

Grand Rapids Arts has recommended the acceptance of the application that was submitted by Leah Yellowbird for the time period of November 15, 2014 until February 15, 2015. Leah Yellowbird is from Grand Rapids. Leah paints and does beadwork on canvas birch-bark and leather and was recently the people's choice winner at the 2014 jury show at Macrostie.

Motion by Commissioner Driscoll, second by Commissioner Marty to accept the application from Leah Yellowbird as an Artist in Residence for the time period of November until February, 2015. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Dodge expressed that we need to really publicize the Community Survey. This is an integral part of the planning process to give direction regarding the Cultural Plan. The Commission was challenged to make short statements of why someone should take the survey and how it will impact decisions made about the future we have for the Arts and Cultural Plan.

- ✓ Decisions are made by those who show up
- ✓ It will strengthen the Community
- ✓ It will affect our economy and young people will stay here
- ✓ Brings statewide resources to Grand Rapids
- ✓ Economic Development
- ✓ Opportunities to influence the direction
- ✓ It will make arts more visible and accessible
- ✓ It should concern everyone, it's about you
- ✓ Investment of 10 minutes affects the next 10 years.

Jessica put together a page with 4 GRMN Creates; it was printed and laminated and given to the commissioners to give out to area businesses. Commissioner Marty asked if the template could be emailed to him and he will make it available for the performances at the Reif.

Areas where Jessica will publicize are the following; press releases, blog, community calendar, face book, city web / email, benchmark. Each Commissioner was encouraged to send emails to their personal and work contacts, face book calendars and etc. asking them to complete the survey. Michele will send out a city wide email and send the template to Commission Marty. With everyone's help we should receive a good response from the community.

Timeline for upcoming events – **Monday, October 27, 2014**

Special Commission Meeting 8-9:30 am GR Fire Hall All Commission Members
Economic Development Members, candidates running for mayor/council have all been invited.

City Council Work Session 4-5:00 pm Council Chambers Consultants, Kathy, and Amy will be at the work session to update the City Council and answer any question.

2nd Community Meeting 6-7:30 pm ISD 318 Board Room All Commission Members
The community is invited to attend this meeting to discuss the arts and culture plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm

Respectfully submitted by Michele Palkki

Reminder, due to the elections the next regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Arts Commission will be held on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 beginning at 3:15 pm at the Grand Rapids City Hall, Conference Room 2B.

**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
GRAND RAPIDS FIRE HALL 18 NE 5TH STREET, GRAND RAPIDS MN 55744
SPECIAL MEETING, MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2014 – 8:00 AM**

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof the Special Meeting of the Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission was held in the Grand Rapids Fire Hall, 18 NE 5th Street, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Monday, October 27, 2014, at 8:00 am

CALL OF ROLL: On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Kathy Dodge, Todd Driscoll, Lois Bendix, Sonja Merrild, Karen Walker, and Carissa Grosland. 8:22 am David Marty arrived, also Sonja Merrild left.

Commissioners absent: Michael Davis

Staff: Tom Pagel, Jeff Davies, Rob Mattei, Dale Anderson, Amy Dettmer and Michele Palkki

Consultants: Anne Gadwa Nicodemus – Metris Arts Consulting, Lynn Osgood, GO Collaborative

Visitors: Mark Zimmerman-IEDC, Sandy Layman-Layman Consulting, Chris Fulton-GR Area County Foundation, Megan Christiansen-Visit Grand Rapids

WELCOME

Commissioner Kathy Dodge: Welcome and Introductions

Anne Gadwa-Nicodemus, Metris Arts Consulting gave a short presentation regarding art place-making. Lynn Osgood, GO Collaborative presented the role of the commission.

ARTS & CULTURE DISCUSSION

A discussion began with laying out the plan for the Arts and Culture Plan

- ✓ December – Draft Plan submitted to the Commission
- ✓ January – Draft report submitted to the community
- ✓ March – Final Report / City Council Approval

Survey Results

The number of survey responses to date are 314, a very good response. There is evidence of a strong physical, economic development and strong community ties from the information gathered from meetings, interviews, and presentations. People still have until the end of the week before the survey link will be shut down so the consultants can compile information for the Commission.

and Rapids plays a significant part both as a city and as regionally. We need to take advantage of small and underutilized as well as promoting health, history and physical environment.

Open Conversation – a few questions were asked. What strikes you? What peaks your curiosity? What makes you worried? What will be able to happen right away?

- So many directions
- Children who have study halls – those who may not be involved in sports, choir or extracurricular activities what can we do for them
- Rialto Theater – Grand Rapids Town Hall – open venues to utilize
- This is more tangible, larger than Grand Rapids / Regionally
- Connections to outside Grand Rapids (Duluth, Bigfork, Brainerd) how do we get them on board
- Connecting both sides of the Mississippi River, pedestrian bridge possibility
- So many other agencies outside Grand Rapids are already volunteer – enough time
- How can we fund an organization once implemented and help promote healthy arts and culture to the larger community

Meghan Christianson noted that we have an Attraction Committee that meets regularly regarding events and happenings in Grand Rapids. This would be a great resource.

The resources are there you just have to figure out how to connect them.

- People need to buy in
- Small Steps – Work off that
- What can be done to foster entrepreneurs

The downtown businesses are working on how to get people to go to several areas, not just one. How do we market arts and culture? Is it funding, or do we use different focus groups.

- Communication/Recreation
- Central School can be an important driver
- Walkability downtown – come together, both sides of the tracks.
- Partnerships-sharing the strategic plan with others
- We already have silo's, we need to put them together with a strategic plan
- Collaboration with community groups, focus on what we do like
- Look at things in the reverse, what do you want and how to get there
- Create a reason to
- Focus to make things tangible
- Act as a convener / work with them
- What is the clear vision
- Education is key – get the schools involved
- Public relations and communications
- There is an energy we need to fuel, include downtown, funding, timing
- Get Fit and the Farmers Market.

The consultants thanked everyone for their involvement and comments on Arts & Culture and invited everyone to the Community Meeting to be held at 6:00 pm tonight in the Board Room of Independent School District 318.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 am
Respectfully submitted by Michele Palkki