

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 2B, 420 N. POKEGAMA AVE.

DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016

TIME: 4:00 P.M.

4:00 CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

	Present	Absent
Commissioner Becky LaPlant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Jackie Dowell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Mary Jo Wimmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Frieda Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Doug Learmont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Melissa Weidendorf, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Karen Noyce, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Alice Moren	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner John Schirber	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MEETING PROTOCOL POLICY:

***Please be aware that the Council has adopted a Meeting Protocol Policy which informs attendees of the Council's desire to conduct meetings in an orderly manner which welcomes all civil input from citizens and interested parties. If you are unaware of the policy, copies (orange color) are available in the wall file by the Council entrance.***

SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA:

This is an opportunity to approve the regular agenda as presented or add/delete an Agenda item by a majority vote of the Commission members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 30, 2016 Regular Meeting

FINANCIALS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

ITASCA COUNTY DIVERSITY ALLIANCE:

BIG VIEW UPDATE:

OLD BUSINESS: Indigenous Peoples' Day 2016

NEW BUSINESS: Arrowhead Regional Arts Grant Received

REPORTS ON CALLS AND INQUIRIES:

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

ADJOURNMENT:

## CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

**CALL TO ORDER:** Pursuant to due notice and call thereof a regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission was held in Conference Room 2B of City Hall, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

**CALL OF ROLL:** On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Commissioners Becky LaPlant, Jackie Dowell, Doug Learmont, Melissa Weidendorf, Karen Noyce and Alice Moren

**Absent:** Frieda Hall, Mary Jo Wimmer, and John Schirber

**Visitor:** None

**Staff:** Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Commissioner Noyce

### **SETTING AGENDA**

Nothing to add

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** February 24, 2016

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LAPLANT, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MOREN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 24, 2016 with the corrections. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

### **FINANCIALS**

The membership to the League of MN Cities Human Rights has been paid.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The 2016 Commission Contact list was distributed to the Commission. Commissioner Noyce read a thank you that Barb Sanderson sent to the Commission.

Melissa Weidendorf arrived at 4:15 pm

### **REPORT ON CALLS/INQUIRIES** Nothing to report

### **CIRCLE OF HEALING**

Commissioner Noyce gave a report regarding the happenings for Circle of Healing.

- Gerald White was present at the last Circle of Healing meeting and reported that he is interested in having a meeting in the near future in hopes of getting more Native American teachers.
- Met with the Arts and Culture Commission regarding language for the City Entrance signs. It appears that the signage will be the responsibility of the Human Rights; they will continue to work with the City.
- The next meeting will be in Ball Club on April 19.

### **ITASCA DIVERSITY ALLIANCE**

Commissioner Noyce reported that the outcomes now focus on communities of color. We are to educate on issues that are occurring today. Communication – social opportunities. The next meeting will be held April 11 at 4:00 pm in Conference Room 2B in City Hall.

### **BIG VIEW UPDATE**

Commissioner Moren reported that the series Race – The Power of an Illusion has had a great response.

The next upcoming event is called “Heroin”, scheduled for Monday, April 11, 2016 in the Stender Community Room at the Blandin Foundation from 6 until 8:00 pm. This will be comprised of five experts; Michelle Vietanan, Vic Williams, Mark Weller, Bob Stein, and Brian Mattson. Pizza will be served.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing to report

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Election of Officers**

A discussion was held regarding the Election of Officers.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER NOYCE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER LAPLANT TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER WIEDENDORF AS CHAIR. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Election of officers continued.**

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WIEDENDORF, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER LAPLANT TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER NOYCE AS VICE CHAIR. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Ojibwe Language/Indigenous People's Day**

A discussion was held regarding these two items as possibly one project. The Commission would take the language and move it as part of the Indigenous People's Day.

The Human Rights Commission is in charge of putting something each together year on Indigenous People's Day, This can be comprised of whatever the Commission wishes to do. The banners were purchased last year and are owned by the City. Public Works will take care of putting them up prior to the event. A discussion was held that the program this year could be on language or history and cultural signage. The Commission will keep this open for discussion to determine what the program will be.

**125<sup>th</sup> Grand Rapids Celebration**

A discussion was held as to what the Commission wants to do in participating in the celebration. More discussion will be held on this topic.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2016

Respectfully submitted, Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

ARROWHEAD  
REGIONAL  
ARTS  
COUNCIL

Fitger's Building, Suite 404  
600 East Superior Street  
Duluth, MN 55802  
info@aracouncil.org  
218.722.0952  
800.569.8134

April 14, 2016

Tom Pagel  
City Administrator  
City of Grand Rapids  
420 N Pokegama Ave  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

GRANT: ALO6216P, Absent Narratives: Inclusion and Identity in Minnesota

Dear Tom Pagel:

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$3,330.00 to your organization for your recently awarded Arts and Cultural Heritage Community Arts Learning Grant.

If the dates of the project or other elements of the proposed program change significantly from those in the original description in the application, you must notify the Council in writing of this change. **Requests to alter aspects of the project must be made in writing prior to making the change, as should a request for an extension of time.** We advise you to keep the financial records for the project for three years after its completion. In the case of long-term projects or other special circumstances, the Council may contact you for in-progress information.

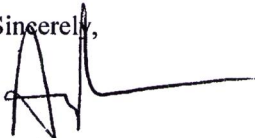
At the end of your project you will need to submit a Final Report to the Council. Your Final Report form will be accessible to fill out in the ARAC online granting system attached to your grant application.

The Council would very much like to have copies of any publicity materials, digital images, or press clippings related to your project for use to share with the Board and on our website. Please include the ARAC office on your mailing list for press releases. The Council and I make every effort to stay in touch with arts programming around the region.

Grants from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council are subject to possible audit. If your organization is selected for audit, you will be notified in advance.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions about the financial management of your grant, or if you need advice on any other aspects of your project. The Board sends you the very best wishes for a successful project.

Sincerely,



Ashley Kolka  
Grants Manager

*Where the arts flourish, you thrive*

RECEIVED  
APR 18 2016  
CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS



HOLD TO LIGHT TO VIEW WATERMARK IN PAPER. HEAT SENSITIVE RED IMAGE DISAPPEARS WITH HEAT. DETECTION CIRCLE REVEALS A LOCK WHEN TESTED.

016353

**ARROWHEAD REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL**

1301 RICE LAKE ROAD, SUITE 120  
DULUTH, MN 55811  
(218) 722-0952



17-2/910

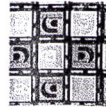
4/14/2016

PAY TO THE  
ORDER OF City of Grand Rapids

\$ \*\*3,330.00

Three Thousand Three Hundred Thirty and 00/100 \*\*\*\*\* DOLLARS

City of Grand Rapids  
420 North Pokegama Ave  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744



*[Handwritten Signature]*  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

MEMO

ALO6216P

⑈016353⑈ ⑆091000022⑆ 104780003117⑈

**ARROWHEAD REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL**

City of Grand Rapids

ALO6216P

4/14/2016

3,330.00

016353

101-00-37-04-2310

Arrowhead Reg Arts - Human Rights

Cash- Checking

ALO6216P

3,330.00

Security features. Details on back.



## Wing Young Huie – Exhibit, Presentation, and Workshop – October 2016

**Summary:** MacRostie Art Center is interested in partnering with the Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission to present this program. The cost to bring the artist here with an exhibit, lecture, and workshop would be approximately \$2500. Additional costs could include advertising/promotion, transportation for underserved groups to attend, etc. The GR HRC would be eligible to apply for a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council of up to \$6,000 (MAC is not eligible). MAC can supply the 20% match with staff time, in-kind use of the venue, and some publicity. We'd be happy to help with the grant as well. The grant is due January 29, 2016 with funds available starting April 1.

More info about the Community Arts Learning grant program <http://aracouncil.org/>

More info about Wing Young Huie: <http://www.wingyounghuie.com/>

MAC Contact: Katie Marshall, 218-326-2697, [katie@macrostieartcenter.org](mailto:katie@macrostieartcenter.org)



### **EXHIBIT: Identity and the American Landscape**

This 50-piece retrospective is culled from 11 projects that span a 30-year career, reflecting the dizzying, changing cultural landscape.

Wing has many exhibition possibilities available for venues of all kinds, appropriate for formal gallery settings to K - 12 schools. His photographs address a host of social topics, including immigration, race, adoption, urbanism, rural life, dementia, spirituality, Lutheranism, gender, vulnerability, homelessness, and social disconnection.





### **LECTURE: How Do Photographs Form Us?**

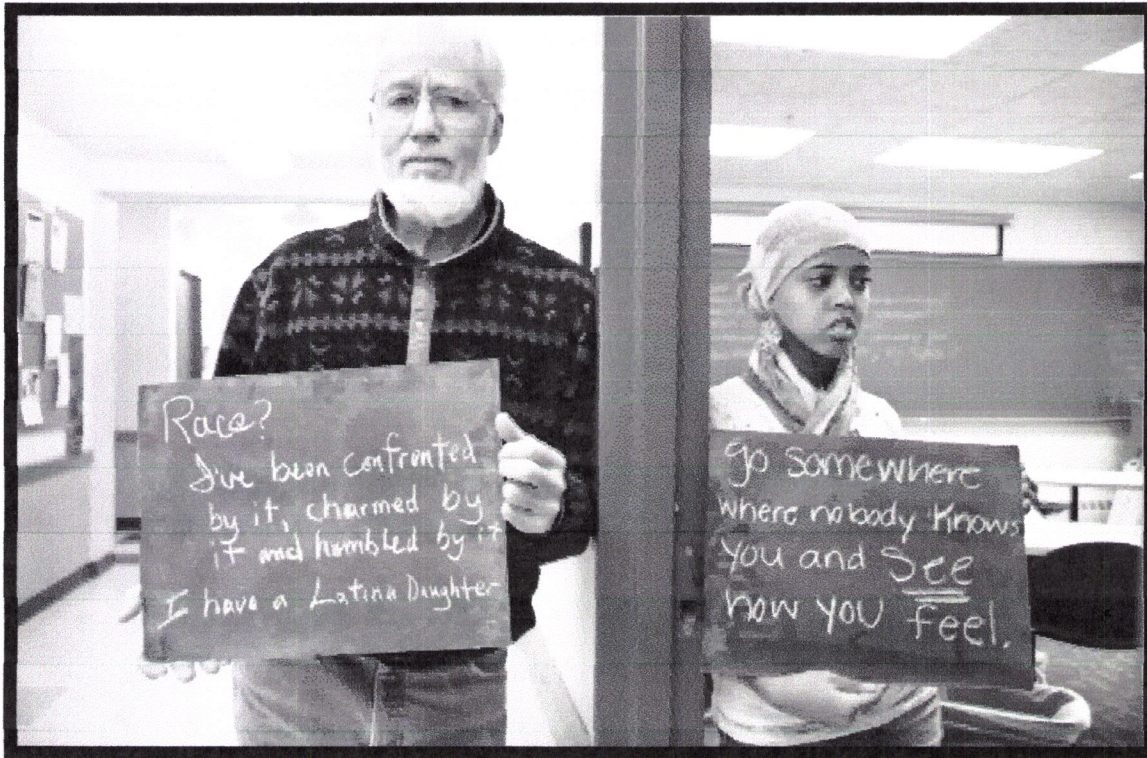
Wing's dynamic slide show lecture confronts many divisive social issues, such as cultural bias, immigration, religion, and social disconnection. While sharing anecdotes and insights into his creative process—and his abilities to intimately interact with thousands of strangers—he also discusses the personal and professional challenges in his 35-year journey of becoming a celebrated artist.

Contrasting points of views are engaged when Wing presents his photographs that are open to interpretation and asks participants, “What do you see?” He then facilitates a dialogue before revealing the stories behind the photographs that furthers the complexities of cultural and personal perceptions, creating a challenging yet safe environment for deep discussion.

How are we impacted by the daily consumption of countless images created by marketing forces, the media, and popular entertainment? How can we differentiate our authentic selves from idealized realities? Do we become what we see? In other words: How do photographs form us?

Time frame: 45 - 75 minutes.





### **WORKSHOP: Chalk Talk**

A "Chalk Talk" workshop is also available, in which participants engage each other with an activity used in his recent work, *The University Avenue Project*. Wing elicited responses from hundreds of people in various circumstances by asking a series of open-ended questions. He then chose only one of the answers from each person, which that person wrote on a chalkboard. How would you answer these questions?

- What are you?
- How do you think others see you? What don't they see?
- What advice would you give to a stranger?
- What is your favorite word?
- Describe an incident that changed you.
- How have you been affected by race?

Workshop participants pair with someone in the room they are unfamiliar with, ask each other these questions, choose each others' answer, and then write that answer down on black construction paper with white chalk. (Option: participants can then photograph each other with their chalkboards.) This intimate and non-confrontational interaction addresses issues of bias, challenging preconceptions of the other and one's self.

Time Frame: 45 - 60 minutes.

## Michele Palkki

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**From:** Mary Jo Wimmer <mjwimmer80@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2016 5:31 PM  
**To:** Michele Palkki  
**Subject:** Re: Agenda

Michele,  
Once again, I will be out of town for work on the 27th. So far May is looking good though.  
Mary JoWimmer

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Michele Palkki  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2016 9:31 AM  
**To:** 'Mary Jo Wimmer'  
**Subject:** RE: Agenda

The last Wednesday (May 27th)  
I am just giving opportunity if you have something to add to the agenda

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mary Jo Wimmer [<mailto:mjwimmer80@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2016 9:27 AM  
**To:** Michele Palkki  
**Subject:** Re: Agenda

When is the meeting please?  
Mary Jo

-----Original Message-----

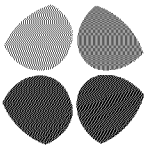
**From:** Michele Palkki  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2016 2:30 PM  
**To:** Alice Moren ; Becky LaPlant ; Frieda Hall ; Jackie Dowell ; John Schirber ; Karen Noyce ; Mary Jo Wimmer ; Melissa Weidendorf ; R. D. Learmont ; Tom Pagel  
**Subject:** Agenda

Good Afternoon

Anything more to add to the agenda? I need back by Wednesday so I can post and send out to media.

thanks

Michele Palkki  
Administrative Assistant  
City of Grand Rapids  
420 North Pokegama Avenue  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744-2662  
Office: 218-326-7600  
Fax: 218-326-7608



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"Act For America" -anti-Muslim group - Jackie

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