



**Arts & Culture Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2024
6:30 PM**

North St. Paul City Hall – Council Chambers
2400 Margaret Street

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tom Sonnek called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

COMMISSION

Tom Sonnek, Chair
Carey Nadeau, Vice-Chair
See Yang, Commissioner
Amanda Black, Commissioner
Sharon Clark-Williams, Commissioner
Laura Strang, Commissioner
Raquel Soto, Student Commissioner

STAFF/LIAISONS

Lisa Wong, City Council Liaison
Sara Lang, Staff Liaison

III. ADOPT AGENDA

Chair Sonnek called for a motion to adopt the April 3, 2024 meeting agenda.
M/Black, S/Clark-Williams
Motion carried 6-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of February 7, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Chair Sonnek asked for a motion to approve the March 6, 2024 meeting minutes with one small change suggested by Commissioner Nadeau of editing "Ashland Promotions" to "Ashland Productions."
M/Strang, S/Nadeau
Motion carried 6-0.

V. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public comments.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

VII. COMMISSION BUSINESS, ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Updates from Sub-Committees

1- Project Snowy

The Project Snowy sub-committee has finalized the selections by the purchasers for their statues. Staff Liaison Lang is working with the artists to complete artist agreements and connect them with the purchasers. Any edits must come back to the Commission by April 28th for final review before painting begins. The Community Center will be used for painting from May 15th through May 28th. Commissioner Black has offered to be the City representative during the weekdays, 10am-5pm. Other Commissioners will need to be available during other times that artists will be there. Staff Liaison Lang will email out times when Commissioners are needed. Commissioner Black is working on creating the designs for the Vomela plaques for the statues.

Only one Snowy has been confirmed that it will be donated to the City, Premier Bank's. This will occur later in the summer. Other businesses so far want to keep their statues on their own property.

2- Mural Project

The mural sub-committee is developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for City staff to review for murals on private property. The goal of the project is to work with local businesses to create a mural on their property, partially funded by the Arts and Culture Commission. The ACC would help facilitate a call for artists and working with the artists to create a design. The hope is to get the draft of the RFP to the City by the end of the month. Commissioner Clark-Williams is joining the sub-committee. Commissioner Black will work with Commissioner Sonnek to create a Vomela plaque for the mural at Silver Lake.

3- Utility Boxes

There have been no submissions for the student utility box contest with ISD622. Commissioner Yang has been in touch with a contact at ISD622 who is helping to facilitate conversation with North High. The contact has confirmed that the contest has been posted on the school's communication channels and there are continued talks with North High's art teachers for promotion. The sub-committee, along with ISD622, have decided to extend the submission deadline to April 22. Commissioner Sonnek mentioned that North High's spring play opens tomorrow and runs through the weekend and that he can push the contest during the event.

4- Art Cart

Student Commissioner Soto is joining the Art Cart sub-committee. The City is currently advertising for volunteers for the Art Cart events, which include the three Music in the Park dates. Staff Liaison Lang will send Commissioner Black and Student Commissioner Soto the supplies that the Art Cart currently has for planning purposes. The sub-committee can move forward with developing programming and explore the idea of having the Art Cart available for the public, more than just at the City events.

5- Paint Night

Commissioner Nadeau is looking for another member for the sub-committee, especially for 2025 paint nights. 2024 is set with four guest artists (6/17, 7/11, 8/29, 10/24) and Commissioner Nadeau will be at each event at the Commission representative.

6- Autumn Arts Festival

The City's Communications and Event Coordinator is resigning from her position, therefore there will be a small gap in the planning of events and promotion. Staff Liaison Lang will continue working on the event until a new plan is in place. Currently 5 vendors have been accepted and paid, with another 6 or 7 accepted but not paid. Staff Liaison Lang will continue to work with vendors and let the Commission know if any additional help is needed.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

IX. REPORTS FROM STAFF

A. 2024 Budget Recap

Staff Liaison Lang noted the updates to the budget including the reallocation of funds for Project Snowy from last month and the purchase of baggies and drop cloths.

B. 2024 Event Calendar for ACC

Staff Liaison Lang noted the removal of April's paint along on the calendar and mentioned the need for volunteers by Commissioners at each event.

C. Staff Liaison Lang

Staff Liaison Lang announced that she will be moving to be the Staff Liaison for the Park and Recreation Commission. She will continue to work on Project Snowy and assist the new Staff Liaison on seeing current projects through.

IX. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Clark-Williams noted that she and Commissioner Strang will be meeting at the North St. Paul History Museum to look at photos for the utility box wrapping project outside of Roddy's.

Commissioner Nadeau announced that former Student Commissioner Goracki was voted to be President of the State's Student Council.

Commissioner Sonnek mentioned that North High's play, She Kills Monsters, opens tomorrow and is also on Friday and Saturday at 7pm.

Commissioner Black noted that she will be joining the Culture sub-committee towards the end of the year to begin work.

Commissioner Strang said she had her first two sub-committee meetings and has really enjoyed it so far.

No other Commissioner reports were mentioned.

IX. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISON

Council Liaison Wong mentioned the new lead line check which is a federal mandate to identify lead piping in homes. Residents can schedule Public Works to come to their home or identify on their own and self-report. The EDA has positions open and is staying as a full EDA for now. The City Council has approved seeking bids for the 11th Ave sidewalk from Ariel to McKnight. The Community Center discussion has continued. DEED and Ramsey County Library have come to speak on the Community Center. Public comment is now allowed at workshops surrounding the Community Center. There are a number of staffing changes at City Hall.



IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sonnek asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM.

M/Yang, S/Clark-Williams

Motion carried 6-0.

The next regularly scheduled Arts and Culture Commission Meeting is Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 6:30 PM.