

**May 6, 2026
6:30 PM**

The Arts & Culture Commission Meeting will be conducted on **May 6, 2026** at 6:30 p.m. The meeting location is the Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 2400 Margaret St., North St. Paul.

You can watch the meeting on our YouTube channel here: <https://tinyurl.com/NSPYouTube>

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Tom Sonnek, Chair
Carey Nadeau, Vice-Chair
Ashley Perfect, Commissioner
Sharon Clark-Williams, Commissioner
Raquel Soto, Commissioner
Laura Strang, Commissioner
Aliza Verma, Commissioner
Yued Orozco-Garcia, Student Commissioner
Troy Woods, Council Liaison

STAFF

Jordyn Lehman

III. Adopt Agenda

IV. Approval of Minutes

- A. Approval of March 4, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of April 1, 2026 Meeting Minutes

V. Meeting Open to the Public

This Open Forum is an opportunity for persons to address the Arts & Culture Commission on items not on the agenda. A completed public comment form should be presented to the staff liaison prior to the meeting. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person. While the Commission may ask clarifying questions of the speaker, no formal action by the Commission or discussion will be held on these items.

VI. Public Hearings

VII. Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations

- A. Sub-Committee Updates
- B. Discussion: 2027 ACC Budget Proposal to City Council

VIII. Old Business

IX. Reports from Staff

A. 2026 Budget & Events Calendar

X. Reports from Commissioners

XI. Reports from Council Liaison

XII. Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled Arts & Culture Commission meeting is May 6, 2026 at 6:30 PM.



To	Date
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Arts and Culture Commissioners	May 6, 2026
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Agenda Placement # IV.A

Approval of Minutes

Subject

Approval of March 4, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Background/Facts

Recommended Action

Attachments

1. ACC Minutes 03-04-2026

Respectfully submitted,
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant



**Arts & Culture Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2026
6:30 PM**

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

COMMISSION

Tom Sonnek, Chair – Present
Carey Nadeau, Vice-Chair - Present
Ashley Perfect, Commissioner – Present
Sharon Clark-Williams, Commissioner – Present
Laura Strang, Commissioner – Present
Raquel Soto, Commissioner – Present
Aliza Verma, Commissioner – Present
Yued Orozco-Garcia, Student Commissioner – Present
Troy Woods, Council Liaison – Present

STAFF/LIAISONS

Jordyn Lehman, Staff Liaison – Present

III. ADOPT AGENDA

Chair Sonnek called for a motion to adopt the February 4, 2026 meeting agenda.

M/Clark-Williams, S/Verma
Motion carried 7-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of February 4, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Chair Sonnek asked for a motion to approve the February 2026 meeting minutes.

M/Nadeau, S/Perfect

Motion carried 7-0.

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. Sub-Committee Updates

1- Autumn Arts

Staff liaison Lehman shared that the new location for the Autumn Arts Festival is expected to be in the City Parking lot along 7th and Margaret. Lehman noted that Communications and Events Coordinator Ava Greimert requests the Commission determine their AFF sub-committee as she plans to schedule a meeting sometime that following week. Commissioner Perfect and Student Commissioner Orozco-Garcia volunteered to join the AFF sub-committee.

2- Murals

No updates from the Commission.

3- Utility Boxes

Commissioner Clark-Williams shared that Minnesota Photography utility box at Silver Lake Park is underway and continues to make progress. She also shared that she is working on the basic outline for the Good Life in Minnesota utility box to be reviewed by staff.

4- Art Night/Art Cart

Vice-Chair Nadeau shared that the Art Night/Art Cart Sub-Committee reached out to KidsCreate in Woodbury to lead two Art Cart activities at the upcoming music in the parks events in May and July. Vice-Chair Nadeau recommended that the Commission proceeds with contracting KidsCreate for these two events at a total cost of \$600.

M/Sonnek, S/Nadeau

Motion carried 7-0

Commissioner Soto asked for clarification on why certain events made it onto the event calendar included in the packet and what the expectations are for the Commission for some of these events. Staff liaison Lehman and other Commissioners clarified that events that are managed by the ACC are more mandatory while other events are optional for ACC participation.

Vice-Chair Nadeau also noted that the sub-committee has agreed to proceed with purchase of a large box of crayons for the planned Holly Jolly Night coloring activity.

Staff liaison Lehman inquired if the Commission wanted to continue to charge \$10 for the upcoming Art Nights due to their higher costs. The Commission discussed and ultimately agreed to keep the registration price at \$10.

5- Spoken-Word Poetry Slam

Commissioner Clark-Williams shared that the sub-committee is interested in hosting a poetry slam but in a spoken word format at a City Event, potentially the Big Truck Night. Participants would submit their work to be reviewed and approved by the City. Currently final details of the idea are being worked on and then will be submitted to staff for review.

6- Public Art Project

Commissioner Strang noted that she will follow-up regarding the concrete Snowy Stamp

Vice-Chair Nadeau shared that her and Chair Sonnek will be presenting the Coin Press to the City Council at the City Council Meeting on March 17th.



The Commission also shared that they are continuing to explore sidewalk poetry as a future project.

VIII. REPORTS FROM STAFF

Staff liaison Lehman noted that after the direction given by the City Attorney Jack Brooksbank at the previous ACC meeting that moving forwards purchases over \$200 need to be formally voted on by the Commission. This will aid in transparency and record keeping of spending and purchases in the meeting minutes. Purchases under \$200 do not need to be explicitly voted on but should be noted that those purchases have been made or are intended to be made during a meeting.

Both the 2026 Event Calendar and 2026 Budget Tracker Sheet were listed on the staff reports.

IX. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Vice-Chair Nadeau noted that the Student Commissioner is on his last year and with the Commission able to have two student commissioners it would be a good time to push advertising and heightening efforts to promote the other open position.

Commissioner Clark-Williams had no updates related to City business.

Commissioner Perfect had no updates related to City business.

Commissioner Strang had no updates related to City business.

Commissioner Soto had no updates related to City business.

Commissioner Verma had no updates related to City business.

Chair Sonnek had no updates related to City business.

X. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISON

Council Liaison Troy Woods gave an update on the prior City Council meeting on March 3rd.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sonnek asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM.

M/Clark-Williams, S/Perfect

Motion carried 7-0.

The next regularly scheduled Arts and Culture Commission Meeting is Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 6:30 PM



To	Date
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Arts and Culture Commissioners	May 6, 2026
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Agenda Placement # IV.B

Approval of Minutes

Subject

Approval of April 1, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Background/Facts

Recommended Action

Attachments

1. ACC Minutes 04-01-2026

Respectfully submitted,
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant



**Arts & Culture Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2026
6:30 PM**

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Nadeau called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

COMMISSION

Tom Sonnek, Chair – Absent Excused
Carey Nadeau, Vice-Chair - Present
Ashley Perfect, Commissioner – Absent Excused
Sharon Clark-Williams, Commissioner – Present
Laura Strang, Commissioner – Absent Unexcused
Raquel Soto, Commissioner – Present
Aliza Verma, Commissioner – Absent Unexcused
Yued Orozco-Garcia, Student Commissioner – Absent Unexcused
Troy Woods, Council Liaison – Present

STAFF/LIAISONS

Jordyn Lehman, Staff Liaison – Present

Quorum was not met. No official motions, votes, or recommendations were made by the Commissioners present. Commissioners present discussed project updates before adjourning.

III. COMMISSION BUSINESS, ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Sub-Committee Updates

1- Murals

Commissioner Clark-Williams noted the sub-committee is looking into installing a monument marker that highlights North St. Paul's geographic position on the 45th parallel. The idea has received staff approval. The sub-committee will now start to gather more project details.

Vice-Chair Nadeau also noted that the VFW has reached out to City staff and is interested in putting a mural on their building.

2- Utility Boxes

Commissioner Clark-Williams shared that Minnesota Photography utility box at Silver Lake Park call for artists is currently being reviewed by staff and hopefully will be sent out soon.

3- Public Art Project

Vice-Chair Nadeau shared that her and Chair Sonnek presented the Coin Press at the March 17th City Council meeting. Currently the sub-committee is gathering reference images to give to Penny Press USA to create designs for the press.

4- Art Night/Art Cart

Vice-Chair Nadeau confirmed volunteers for the Music in the Park Art Cart activities. She also noted that the Commission will need to determine what project they would like to do for the Big Truck Night at the Car Show as well as the Community Craft Project at the Autumn Arts Festival.

Vice-Chair Nadeau reported that the Art Night with Lisa Ritchie was a success and shared examples of the craft made that night. Next Art Night is the cookie decorating on 4/16 and then candle making on 5/7.

5- Spoken-Word Poetry Slam

Commissioner Clark-Williams shared that staff had reviewed the idea and suggested the activity should take place at the Autumn Arts Festival which the sub-committee agreed.

VIII. REPORTS FROM STAFF

Staff liaison Lehman noted that Art Night and the Art Cart draws funds from two separate accounts so to ensure accounting is accurate the two budgets will remain separate on the budget tracking sheet.

Lehman also noted that budget proposals are due from late June to early July and let the Commission know that will be an upcoming topic of discussion.

Both the 2026 Event Calendar and 2026 Budget Tracker Sheet were listed on the staff reports.

IX. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Vice-Chair Nadeau shared that former ACC Commissioner Amanda Black has art featured in the St. Paul Arts Collective free coloring book.

Commissioner Clark-Williams had no updates related to City business.

Commissioner Soto had no updates related to City business.

X. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISON

Council Liaison Troy Woods thanked Chair Sonnek, Vice-Chair Nadeau, and Commissioner Soto for presenting the Coin Press to the City Council at the March 17th meeting. Woods also shared the dates for the City Wide Clean Up Day and Garage Sale.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Nadeau asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Arts and Culture Commission Meeting is Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 6:30 PM



To	Date
Arts and Culture Commissioners	May 6, 2026

Agenda Placement # VII.B

Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations

Subject

Discussion: 2027 ACC Budget Proposal to City Council

Background/Facts

Budget proposals are due to the City Council in early July. Staff would like to touch base with the Commission regarding future projects, the Commission's plans for 2027, and discuss thoughts and ideas for 2027 budget proposals. Staff is looking to have a nearly flushed out proposal after the June 3rd ACC meeting.

Recommended Action

Attachments

1. ACC Budget Proposal for 2026

Respectfully submitted,
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant

Item	Description	Funding Request	New or Ongoing	Justification
1	Utility Box Wraps - Phase 4	7000	Ongoing	Highly popular and relatively low-cost way to add visual interest to public spaces. Looking to expand community engagement and possibly pay artists to paint directly on boxes. Other images may be more costly for copyright.
2	Art Cart Supplies	500	Ongoing	The Art Cart brings art directly to the people, especially children. We would like to increase funding to improve the quality of the programming, including better supplies and possibly payments to artists to lead sessions with children.
3	Mural Project	12500	Ongoing	For multiple potential murals, including support for murals on private businesses.
4	Public Art	5000	Ongoing	Art projects that would be visible and/or accessible to all residents, including art installations in public spaces, and arts & culture-related activities.
5	Branding & Communications	1000	Ongoing	To increase visibility via photography, event signage, swag, calendar of events, etc.
Total Budget Request		26000		



To	Date
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Arts and Culture Commissioners	May 6, 2026
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Agenda Placement # IX.A

Reports from Staff

Subject

2026 Budget & Events Calendar

Background/Facts

Recommended Action

Attachments

1. 2026 Budget Tracker
2. Event Schedule Planner 2026

Respectfully submitted,
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant

Budget Report

BUDGET	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
\$7,000 UTILITY BOX WRAPS												
Heart Hands Utility Box Wrap/Design (Casey)						\$3,150.00						
MN Nature Utility Box Wrap (Silver Lake)							\$3,000.00					
MN Nature Utility Box Wrap Artist Stipend							\$500.00					
Current Total	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$3,850.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00
\$12,500 MURALS												
Budget Reallocation - Public Art (Coin Press)			\$1,778.14									
Current Total	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$10,721.86	\$10,721.86	\$10,721.86	\$10,721.86	\$10,721.86	\$10,721.86	\$10,721.86	\$10,721.86	\$10,721.86	\$10,721.86
\$1,000 BRANDING AND COMMUNICATION												
Current Total	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
\$6,778 PUBLIC ART												
Coin Press			\$6,778.14									
Snowy Concrete Stamps												
Current Total	\$6,778.14	\$6,778.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$500 Art Cart												
Music in the Park Hause (Snowman Slime) 5/22/2026					\$150.00							
Music in the Park Casey (Snowglobe) 7/9/2026							\$300.00					
Crate of Crayons			\$129.75									
Paper Plates			\$5.58									
Tablecloths			\$9.98									
Current Total	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$354.69	\$354.69	\$204.69	\$204.69	-\$95.31	-\$95.31	-\$95.31	-\$95.31	-\$95.31	-\$95.31
\$4,000 ART NIGHT/Art Cart												
Mandala on Mugs 2/5/2026		\$270.00										
Paint on Canvas 3/19/2026			\$157.03									
Cookie Decorating 4/16/2026				\$750.00								
Candle Making 5/7/2026					\$600.00							
Snowman Pillow 10/15/2025									\$900.00			
Fall Themed Craft 11/19/2025											\$250.00	
Current Total	\$4,000.00	\$3,730.00	\$3,572.97	\$2,822.97	\$2,222.97	\$2,222.97	\$2,222.97	\$2,222.97	\$2,222.97	\$1,322.97	\$1,072.97	\$1,072.97

EVENT SCHEDULE PLANNER 2026

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMISSIONERS
ART NIGHT (SWETHA)	February 5th	6-8:00 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Nadeau
ART NIGHT (LISA RITCHIE)	March 19 th	6:30-8:30 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Nadeau
ART NIGHT (FRENCHIE)	April 16 th	6-8:00 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Nadeau
ART NIGHT (HEIDI)	May 7 th	6-8:00 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Perfect
MUSIC IN THE PARK # 1 (KIDS)	May 22 nd	4:30-5:30 PM	HAUSE PARK	Perfect
MUSIC IN THE PARK #2	July 9 th	5:00-6:30 PM	CASEY LAKE	Sonnek
BIG TRUCK NIGHT	July 10 th	4:30-8:00 PM	7 TH AVE	All as able
AUTUMN ARTS FESTIVAL	September 12 th	10 AM-5:00 PM	CASEY LAKE	All as able
FALL ROUND-UP PARADE	September 17 th	6-8:00 PM	7 TH AVE	All as able
ART NIGHT (JEREMY)	October 15 th	6-8:30 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Sonnek
ART NIGHT (FOHRENKAMM)	November 19 th	6:30-8:30 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Perfect
HOLLY JOLLY NIGHT	December 4th	6-9:30 PM	CASEY LAKE	All as able

JANUARY							FEBURARY							MARCH							APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30											
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JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
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