

**July 1, 2026
6:30 PM**

The Arts & Culture Commission Meeting will be conducted on **July 1, 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 June 3, 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

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 August 5, 2026 at 6:30 pm.



To	Date
Arts and Culture Commissioners	July 1, 2026

Agenda Placement # IV.A

Approval of Minutes

Subject

Approval of June 3, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Background/Facts

Recommended Action

Attachments

1. ACC Minutes 06-03-2026

Respectfully submitted,
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant



**Arts & Culture Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 3, 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 6:35 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

COMMISSION

Tom Sonnek, Chair – Present
Carey Nadeau, Vice-Chair - Present
Ashley Perfect, Commissioner – Absent Excused
Sharon Clark-Williams, Commissioner – Present
Laura Strang, Commissioner – Present
Raquel Soto, Commissioner – Absent Unexcused
Aliza Verma, Commissioner – Absent Unexcused
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 June 3, 2026 meeting agenda.

M/Nadeau, S/Clark-Williams
Motion carried 4-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of May 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Chair Sonnek asked for a motion to approve the May 6, 2026 meeting minutes.

M/Nadeau, S/Clark-Williams

Motion carried 4-0.

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. MN Photography Utility Box Wrap Application Review

Commissioner Clark-Williams introduced the project and explained the application review process. The Commission reviewed the two applications recommended by the utility box sub-committee, application #1 and application #7. Commissioners expressed that both applications showed great talent but ultimately decided to proceed with application #1.

Approval of application #1 for the MN Photography Utility Box Wrap Project.

M/Sonnek, S/Nadeau
Motion carried 4-0

Vice-Chair Nadeau inquired if application #7 could be saved for a future project. Staff liaison was unsure and noted that she would investigate the possibility of doing so.

B. Sub-Committee Updates

1- Autumn Arts

Vice-Chair Nadeau proposed to contract with ArtStart to facilitate the Community Craft Project at the Autumn Arts Festival. After some discussion, that Commission agreed to the proposal.

Approval to contract with ArtStart to have two artists host a 4 hour craft activity at the Autumn Arts Festival and to use the remaining funds budgeted for Art Night to cover the remaining costs.

M/Nadeau, S/Sonnek
Motion carried 4-0

2- Murals

Chair Sonnek shared that he has been in communication with the NSP VFW regarding interest in a mural.

Commissioner Clark-Williams noted that the 45th Parallel Monument Marker is moving along. The concept will be reviewed for interest and feedback by the Parks & Recreation Commission on June 24th.

3- Utility Boxes

Commissioner Strang shared that the Heart Hands Utility box will be installed within the week at Casey Lake Park.

4- Art Night/Art Cart

Art Cart attended the June Music in the Park event. Rescheduled cookie night was a success.

5- Spoken-Word Event

Staff liaison Lehman recapped with the Commission staff concerns with hosting the Spoken-Word Poetry Event at the Autumn Arts Festival. Staff suggested options for the Commission to consider if the Commission would like to proceed with hosting the activity at the Autumn Arts Festival. Commissioner Strang noted that currently the Autumn Arts Festival has many challenges to overcome to host the Spoken-Word event at the festival. At this time the Commission will look for other locations for the activity.

C. Final 2027 ACC Budget Recommendations to City Council

Staff liaison Lehman started the conversation noting that budget proposals are due to the finance director at the beginning of June and staff is looking for final budget proposals from the Arts & Culture Commission.

Vice-Chair Nadeau commented that she feels as though the prior \$26,000 total budget requested for 2026 and 2025 has been perfect for the projects the Commission is looking to do but certain line items



may need money to be moved around to reflect project shifts for 2027. Commissioners present agreed with the sentiment. After some discussion the Commission settled to keep the \$26,000 total budget request and move funds from mural to the Art Cart line item.

Approval of the 2027 Arts & Culture Commission budget proposal with the following dollar amounts:

\$26,000 total budget request with the following line items.

- Utility Box Wraps - \$7,000
- Art Cart - \$3,000
- Mural Project - \$10,000
- Public Art - \$5,000
- Branding & Communication - \$1,000

M/Nadeau, S/Clark0-Williams
Motion carried 4-0

VIII. REPORTS FROM STAFF

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

IX. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Vice-Chair Nadeau had no updates related to City business.

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

Commissioner Strang 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 City budget discussions, grant funding for the water tower project, elections, and more.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sonnek adjourned the meeting at 7:31 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Arts and Culture Commission Meeting is Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Attested:

Approved:

Jordyn Lehman Staff Liaison

Tom Sonnek Arts & Culture Commission Chair



To	Date
Arts and Culture Commissioners	July 1, 2026
Agenda Placement # VII.A	
Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations	
Subject	
Sub-Committee Updates	
Background/Facts	
Recommended Action	
Attachments	
None	

Respectfully submitted,
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant



To	Date
Arts and Culture Commissioners	July 1, 2026

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												
Budget Reallocation - (Snowglobe Art Cart)					\$95.31							
Current Total	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$904.69	\$904.69	\$904.69	\$904.69	\$904.69	\$904.69	\$904.69	\$904.69
\$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
\$595 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	\$595.31	\$595.31	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$4,000 ART NIGHT												
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	11 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							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL							MAY							JUNE										
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