

Duluth Public Arts Commission

MINUTES for Monday, January 25th, 2021

4:30pm-6:00pm

Call Meeting to Order

Meeting started at 4:33pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bret Amundson, Jodi Broadwell, Philip Gilpin, Paula Gudmundson, Noah Hobbs, Melissa LaTour, Mary Tennis, Christina Woods

Absent: Amanda McElray Hunter

Staff Present: Adam Fulton, Steven Robertson & Eleanor Bacso

Guest Speaker: Mayor Emily Larson

NEW BUSINESS

President Tennis announced that she would be resigning one meeting early as she was coming to the end of her third term.

Check-In and Thank You-Mayor Larson

Mayor Larson extended her gratitude to the Duluth Public Arts Commissioners. She suggested that DPAC pick 2-3 goals from the Creative Watershed Plan to focus on this year. Commissioners asked the Mayor questions surrounding the budget. Mayor Larson asked if this is something the commission would like to add in for one of their strategic goals for this year. The Mayor shared that the City is projecting a decrease in tourism tax funding this year and that she could share more realistic projections in March and in June. The Mayor suggested fundraising activities as well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of December Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved with a minor correction. Hobbs moved to approve the minutes with a second from Woods.

Amundson	Broadwell	Gilpin	Gudmundson	Hobbs	La Tour	Tennis	Woods
Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Superior Street Subcommittee Update- Noah Hobbs

Hobbs gave an update regarding the Superior Street lighting project. The plan is to provide grants directly to businesses so that they can pay the artists. This process will assist DPAC working more nimbly and quickly. Hobbs shared the light projection proposal would come to DPAC for approval first. The plan

is to have lights up in February-March and the subcommittee is figuring out what businesses would potentially participate in tandem with the Greater Downtown Council. Tennis noted that she would reach out to her contacts in the art world in regards to potential costs for this project. Woods said that there is an organization that sets standards for paying artists and it is called Nova. Christina will send this information to Eleanor to share with the group.

Maintenance Subcommittee Update-Jodi Broadwell

Broadwell shared that the Duluth Legacy piece repairs are mostly cosmetic. Woods said that the contractor found it is deteriorating because people love it and are climbing and sitting on it. Broadwell shared that Penny Perry is hoping to work on conservation work on up to 15 pieces starting this spring. Broadwell also shared the idea that either in the summer or the fall when Penny Perry is working on pieces that DPAC could encourage people to gather around her to watch. There was discussion surrounding how to turn the maintenance of these pieces into an event or fundraiser; or possibly that volunteers or commissioners that could be educated on how to be assistants to Penny. Commissioners discussed making DPAC’s Facebook becoming more active and engaging with Youth in Action.

Amundson left the meeting at 5:25pm.

VOTE

Conservation committee made a recommendation to approve the bid for the conservation of the Duluth Legacy piece. The conservation work cost would not exceed \$5,000. Woods wanted to make a note for the record that this cost feels legitimate as she has previous experience in construction work.

Broadwell makes a motion to approve with a second from Tennis.

VOTE

Broadwell	Gilpin	Gudmundson	Hobbs	La Tour	Tennis	Woods
Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea

Duluth Airport Authority Art Display Cleaning Fee-Eleanor Bacso

Bacso shared that the request from the Duluth Airport Authority requested for a cleaning/staff time fee costing \$2,080 of the 8 display boxes.

Woods makes a motion to spend \$2080 a year for next 3 years for cost of staff time and supplies for the care of the display boxes at the airport with a second from Broadwell.

VOTE

Broadwell	Gilpin	Gudmundson	Hobbs	La Tour	Tennis	Woods
Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea

Private Property Murals-Eleanor Bacso

Bacso shared that she has been receiving many inquiries in regards to private property murals and asked what role DPAC should play, if any. Woods shared that the average cost for a mural is costs \$35 a square foot. Gudmundson said that it may be better to focus on experiences that people can have in Duluth,

such as events around the arts. Woods is interested in absent narratives in public art. Broadwell shared that if it is private building, it should use private funding. Hobbs said that DPAC could develop criteria for what DPAC views as private such as what is the traffic or accessibility to the area and that DPAC should have further discussion. Fulton asked if DPAC could do smaller funding amounts towards the murals. Gilpin said there should be a grant program that DPAC can help assist/match funds with.

Bacso also asked about the match making list of artists and businesses. Commissions suggested developing a list on GoogleDocs. Gudmundson said there is a small group of commissioners working on the Creative Watershed Plan breaking it down into smaller more attainable goals. Gudmundson also talked about creating experiences for people around the arts as it spurs economic development. Gudmundson requested that DPAC's mission be added to the City's website.

Marten Trail-Eleanor Bacso

Bacso went over the information she had emailed to commissioners regarding the Marten Trail Plan and asked if there was any feedback. Commissioners requested to have Parks send the invitation to the next meeting to everyone on this list.

Woods will volunteered to chair the next meeting. Hobbs made a motion to approve Woods as to act as temporary Chair for the February Duluth Public Arts Commission meeting with a second from LaTour.

Public Comment

Confirm next meeting date: February 22nd, 2021

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 6:04pm.