Duluth Public Arts Commission

MINUTES for Monday, November 15th, 2021

Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting started at 4:01 pm.

Present: Bret Amundson, Tammy Clore, Amy Demmer, Scottie Gardonio, Paula Gudmundson, Philip Gilpin, Melissa La Tour

Absent: Noah Hobbs, Amanda McElray Hunter, Christina Woods

Guests: Babette Sandman

Staff: Eleanor Bacso, Steven Robertson

1. Public comment

Approval of Minutes

2. September 20th and October 18th Meeting Minutes

LaTour makes a motion to approve both minutes with a second by Gilpin.

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Discussion Items

3. Leif Erickson and Spirit of the Lake

Babette Sandman, representing the Indigenous Commission spoke about the Leif Erickson and Spirit of the Lake statues. Babette shared the Indigenous Commission’s views of both statues and discussed the inaccuracy of them. Sandman said she would like to have both the Indigenous Commission and Public Arts Commission to have a meeting and discuss the next steps for these pieces of art.

4. Anishinaabemowin Signage for City Hall

Sandman shared with the commission that Bemidji is the leader in signage of Anishinaabemowin and would like Duluth to have the language city-wide and especially in City Hall. Gudmundson shared that DPAC could exercise some power in City Hall in particular for this project. Sandman said the Indigenous commission is talking about this initiative as well for the Chief Buffalo Mural project. Sandman said she would like to have meeting with Greater Downtown Council and other businesses to increase the visibility of
the Anishinaabemowin. Amundson noted that this is important to have Anishinaabemowin part of public art projects.

5. Strategic visioning session

Commissioners decided to move this discussion at the December meeting.

Communications

6. Staff Updates

Bacso shared an update about the senior economic developer position that will be working with DPAC in the new year, the public art mural with Minnesota Power and the upcoming press release for the utility box art wrap and airport rotating exhibition.

Subcommittee Reports

7. Conservation Subcommittee

There was no update from the conservation subcommittee.

8. Superior Street Art Walk Subcommittee

Gardonio talked more about the projection project that will launch in February and the next steps for the Superior Street Art Walk.

Action Items

9. Superior Street Art Walk Subcommittee Light Projection in Lincoln Park RFQ

Philip makes a motion to move forward with the RFQ with a second by LaTour.

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Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by LaTour and a second by Gardonio. The meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.