



City of Duluth Meeting Agenda Duluth Public Arts Commission

411 West First Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

The Duluth Public Arts Commission fosters arts development and advocates for public art and arts events. It advises the City of Duluth on arts-related matters and promotes the positive economic impact the arts has in the community and region. It also assists the City in the development and maintenance of an ongoing Municipal Arts and Culture Plan. The Duluth Public Arts Commission, in all its endeavors, is committed to inclusivity, collaboration, and fairness.

Wednesday January 29,
2025

4:00 PM

Conference Room 155, Duluth City Hall (411 W 1st St)

2024 Work Plan Goals:

1. Invest in processes & programs we are doing well. Then determine what else we'd like to add for 2025 and beyond
2. Develop systems, direction, and implement Conservation & Maintenance
3. Finalize systems to allow us to formally bring more public art into our community in 2025 and beyond
4. Organize internal systems to be effective and build capacity of Commission & Staff
5. Convey value and importance of DPAC

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DISCUSSION ITEMS

GND Skate Park Grant Request - Skate Park Renderings

Ojibwe Language Signs

2025 Budget

Leadership Transition Planning

Commissioner Recruitment

DPAC Commission Meeting Date, February 26th

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Arts, Statues, and Monuments Subcommittee

Commissioners: Scottie Gardonio, Amanda McElray Hunter, and Christina Woods (Convener)

Programming Subcommittee

Commissioners: Carly Jandl (Convener), Kelli Halsten Erickson, Tammy Clore, Lee Cutler

Strategic Direction Subcommittee

Commissioners: Shari Marshik (Convener), Amy Demmer, Scottie Gardonio, and Amanda McElray Hunter

ADJOURNMENT

Duluth Public Arts Commission

December 16, 2024

Start 4:00 PM

PRESENT:

Marshik, Woods, Gardonio, Demmer, Councilor Durrwachter

ABSENT:

Clore, Hunter, Cutler

Approval of Minutes

Discussion Items:

Staff Transitions & Leadership Role

Natalie Lavenstein will be present at meetings to take notes. No subcommittee meetings because members have resigned. Discussion regarding capacity amongst commission members. Commissioners will encourage people to apply for vacancies.

Budget Update for 2025

In 2024 DPAC spent \$45,819 on the following projects: mural from MN Power, utility boxes, powwow, forecast for public art, flag for Penny, and conservation work. In 2023, DPAC spent \$28,000 and even less the year before. Commissioners want to keep a fund balance so things can be fixed and conserved as needed, and because there are many unknowns for future funding sources. Spent \$5,600 on conservation work in 2024. In 2017 \$8,700 was spent on conservation work. The current goal is to conserve funds for future years and do work now. Annual maintenance and long-term care, not including deaccessioning. DPAC continues to be financially conservative. Work plan for budget is on google drive and will be submitted for a proper budget meeting. Marshik is open to feedback regarding the budget. Application for the tourism tax fund was submitted. There are questions regarding the language of shall vs may.

GND Skatepark Grant Request and Tourism Tax Application Indigenous Commission Grant Request for Signage

Requesting 5k. Does supporting this financially take away from Duluth signage? (Woods). Gardonio recommends a flexible budget. Still have money in the 2024 flex funding (Marshik). Discussion: This has been on agendas for a long time, and no progress has been made. Projects under \$10,000 are better for staff work. This could be given out in smaller chunks. We can do both signage and GND, it is not either or (Marshik). We do not have a process so how do we do this for other groups in the future (Demmer)? Discussion: Need process for murals. Must have equitable action. Capacity is holding us back from creating processes. Woods: Tim Cortes art has been removed in the community due to not getting permission from native communities to use native imagery. We will ask questions and then make a decision. (Natalie will check in with Angie).

Zeitgeist Letter of Support

Motion to approve with change of signature. Woods motioned with Marshik second. Unanimous.

Program Updates-Utility Box Wraps

2025 Meeting Schedule

January 29th 3:30-5 and February 26th 3:30-5. Demmer motioned to approve. Unanimous.

End 5:36 PM



MEMO

Staff Report

To: Duluth Public Arts Commission
From: Angie Stier, Staff, DPAC
Date: January 29th, 2025
Re: Project Updates- GNDDA Grant Request

Summary:

Applicant is seeking \$5,000 to assist with the creation of murals at a new skate park in the Gary-New Duluth neighborhood. This area is currently void of any public murals.

Concept artwork planned for the skate park has been included for reference.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends that the commission vote to approve, deny or amend the above grant request.

Attachments:

- Proposal
- Mural Concepts

Duluth Public Arts Commission

RE: GND REC Skatepark Mural and Grant Request

The GND Development Alliance 501 (c)3 the organization responsible for the revitalization of the GND REC including the new skatepark will be doing a mural on the walls facing Commonwealth Avenue. See Appendix 1. The Far West Gary-New Duluth does not currently have any public art. We are requesting a \$5000 grant for the estimated \$25,000 mural project that will greatly enrich our community.

Project Goals

The Purpose of the project is to create **destination art** by outstanding artists that will draw visitors to the site to view the art, use the GND REC amenities and enjoy the Gary-New Duluth community, the Heart of the St. Louis River corridor.

Theme

The theme for the mural is to be a focus on the history and evolution of the far west side of Duluth including Gary-New Duluth and Fond du Lac. It is envisioned that:

- #1 will have an indigenous focus – Sam Zimmerman See Appendix 2
- #2 will have a skateboarding focus – Todd Bratrud– See Appendix 3
- #3 would provide a historical perspective of the Gary-Duluth and Fond du Lac Communities including the St. Louis River. Tim Cortes See Appendix 4
- #4 would focus on the on the St. Louis River from Fond du Lac with an indigenous focus – Two artists, Michelle Defoe and Sylvia Houle will work together. See Appendix 5 & 6

The art will be developed as appropriate so that it can be transcribed via computer on to a vinyl wrap that will be affixed to the wall. All art will be separated from each other by some type of “border” to be determined and consistent so each artist’s art will stand out individually.

Art will be visibly signed by the artist.

The art will not make a political statement, depict violence, drug use, or have negative connotations.

Approximate dimensions of the assigned wall “shape” for the individual art are noted in Exhibit A. However, the artist is responsible for exact dimensions of the shape they have been assigned so that it can be professionally imaged to the appropriate scale.

We expect that the art will be a destination that will draw people to the community to enjoy the artist's outstanding talents.

Budget for the Original Artwork – The total commission price for the original artwork will be **\$8000**. It is anticipated that imaging will be **\$1000**. The wrap including installation is estimated at **\$16,000**. Total project cost is estimated at **\$25,000**.

We have applied for two other grants but have not yet received notification of success. As we move forward we will conduct fundraising events for the project.

We humbly ask for your support for our grant application.

Please advise if you have any questions.

Regards,



Mark Boben

GND Development Alliance

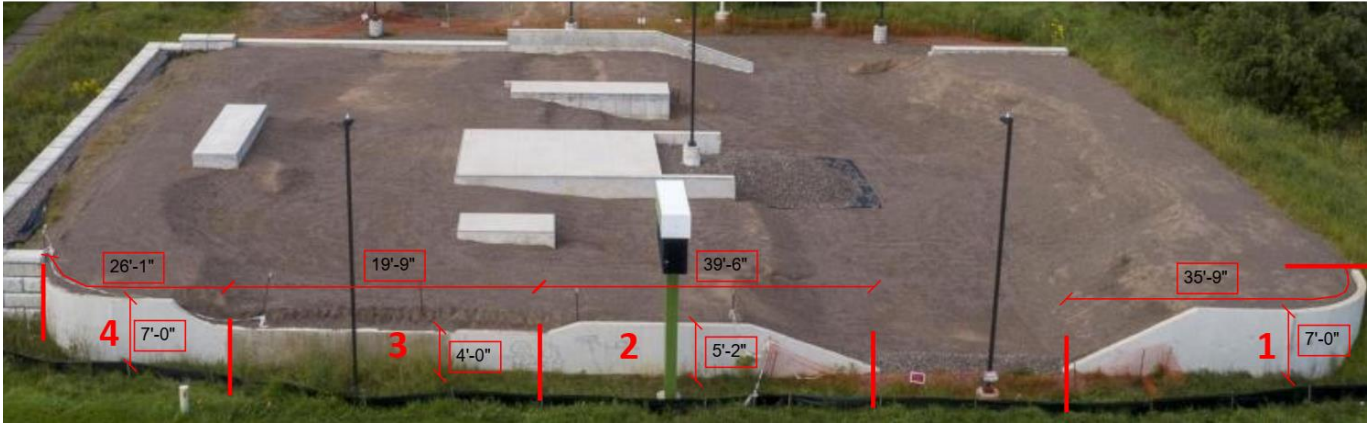
218-355-1349

<https://gnd.community/>

<https://www.facebook.com/gndcommunity>



Appendix 1 - GND REC Skatepark Mural Walls – 801 Commonwealth Avenue, Duluth, Minnesota 55808



Completed skatepark aerial photo

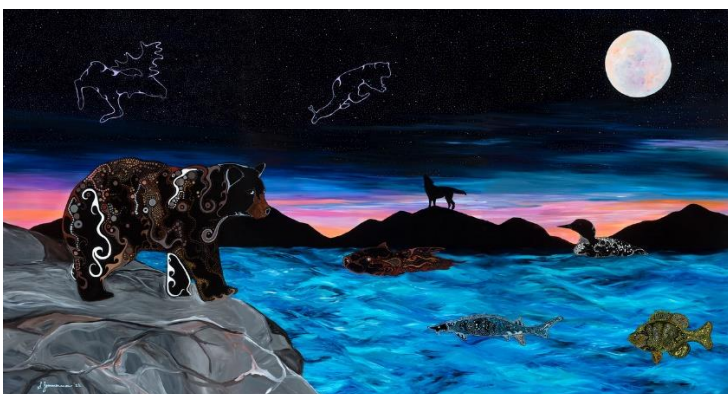


Appendix 2

Sam Zimmerman - <https://www.facebook.com/cranesuperiorstudio/> After twenty years working in public education, Sam returned home to Minnesota. With his relocation from the East Coast returning to Minnesota, he rededicated himself to his painting with a ferocity that had been absent since his earlier studio days.

His work explores his Ojibwe heritage, his learnings and experiences in nature upon his return to the Grand Portage reservation while preserving shared oral histories, reimagining the symbolism of the clan animals while incorporating the natural landscape of Lake Superior's North Shore. Sam focuses on continuing the Anishinaabe tradition of storytelling embedding the themes of environmental stewardship and conservation of the North Shore through his studio and public art commissions. He has completed public art pieces for the Grand Portage Tribal Nation, Chik Wauk Museum and Nature Center, Voyageur National Park, the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Minnesota Twins, and the Duluth and Grand Marais communities as a means to celebrate Ojibwe culture and language.

He has been the recipient of grant awards from the Minnesota State Arts Board, Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, Northland Foundation Maada'ookiing, and Duluth Superior Community Foundation. His most recent art coffee table bilingual coffee table book is a collection of paintings and stories from his first year of creating along the northern shore of Lake Superior, titled: *Following My Spirit Home*, published by Blackbear and Blueberries Publishing in April 2022. *Following My Spirit Home* was a silver finalist for a Midwest Book Award in June 2023. The Minnesota Historical Society press reprinted *Following My Spirit Home* as a new paperback edition in June 2023.



Appendix 3

Todd Bratrud - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Todd_Bratrud Todd Bratrud is an illustrator who is based in Northern Minnesota. For the past 30 years Todd has been making art on a regular basis for skateboarding adjacent brands like: Strangelove, Zero, Creature Skateboards, Thrasher Magazine, Tony Hawk, Nike SB, the V skateboards, Familia Skateboard shop, Brat Bros Fingerboards and much, much more. A skateboarder himself since the late 80s, the skateboarding sub-culture is the main place you will see his work...



Appendix 4

Tim Cortes- <https://timcortes.com/> Tim Cortes uses colored pencil as his preferred medium. Hundreds of his limited edition lithographs have been sold all over the world and his clients are a venerable who's-who of American sports. From Wayne Gretzky to Dale Earnhardt and from Shaquille O'Neal to Troy Aikman, Cortes has been commissioned to create countless commemorative works of art for decades.

Known for his impeccable detail, Cortes has concentrated his talent on celebrating the life and times of many of the world's most famous athletes and the sporting events in which they play.

Cortes' paintings have also been featured in numerous venues around the world, including The U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame, The Franklin Mint and the jersey at the jersey retirement ceremonies of NHL all-star Brett Hull and NFL all-pro, the late Reggie White of the Green Bay Packers. Tim's work is also showcased at the new Minnesota Twins Ball Park "Target Field" where his 3 World Series Murals are the center piece of the "Champions Club" lounge at the park.

Cortes grew up in Duluth, where he later starred as a hockey goaltender and football captain at Duluth East High School. After a stint in the United States Hockey League, Cortes went on to play two seasons with the Golden Gophers of the University of Minnesota He then decided to pursue his lifelong passion of becoming a full-time artist and enrolled in the prestigious Minneapolis College of Art and Design. He has been creating ever since.

Today Tim lives in the same Duluth neighborhood where both he and his wife Kathy grew up. When Tim is not at the drawing board, he dedicates his time coaching hockey goal tenders at every level. Tim also served as goaltending coach for the five-time NCAA National Champion UMD Woman's Hockey Team.



Appendix 5

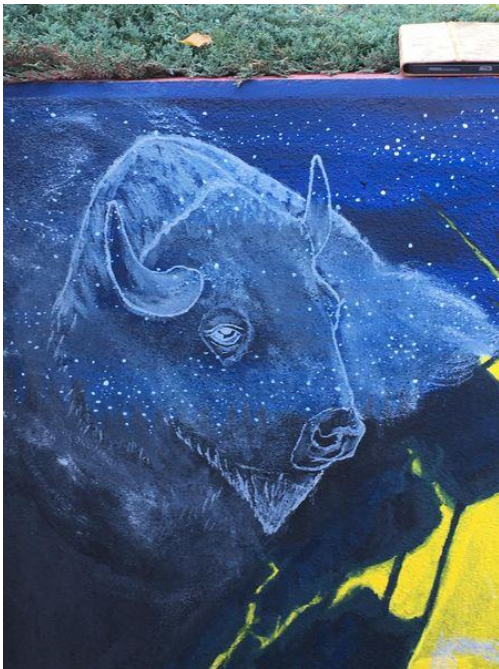
Michelle Defoe –My spirit name is Morning Star. My English name is Michelle Defoe. Welcome to my page of artwork. I work with Ojibwe traditional arts such as moccasin making, beadwork and birchbark. I also paint and work on murals. Michelle will work together with Sylvia Houle.

https://www.facebook.com/StarWomanDesigns?mibextid=LQJ4d&rdid=K24vMHDSIKnysTlc&share_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fshare%2Fy1MP3vJUYPf6PFg%2F%3Fmibextid%3DLQJ4d



Appendix 6

Sylvia Houle - <https://www.facebook.com/sylviahouleart/> Sylvia Houle, Artist - Original contemporary/abstract artwork that is inspired by traditional Anishinaabe teachings and culture. Awards include: First Place in Fine Arts, Adult Division, 2017 Turtle Mountain Tribal Arts Association 2nd Juried Art Show & Market. Sylvia will work together with Michelle Defoe.



GND REC Skatepark Mural Concepts

Outdoor Public Art Gallery

Sam Zimmerman Concept



Todd Bratrud Concept



Tim Cortes Concept



Michelle Defoe & Sylvia Houle Concept





MEMO

Staff Report

To: Duluth Public Arts Commission
From: Angie Stier, Staff, DPAC
Date: January 29th, 2025
Re: Project Updates- Ojibwe Language Signs

Summary:

The Indigenous Commission is seeking \$12,000 to assist with the creation of Ojibwe Language Signs and Pronunciation Guide Project. An oral promise of providing \$15,000 was previously provided and is referenced in the proposal. DPAC has the authority to vote on a chosen amount for the project.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends that the commission vote to approve, deny or amend the grant request.

Attachments:

- Proposal



Ojibwe Language Signs and Pronunciation Guide Project

October 2024

Project description:

1. Increase Indigenous visibility by displaying Ojibwe-language signs in City facilities.
2. Create an online Ojibwe language pronunciation guide for Duluth park names, place names, and signs in City facilities.

Project status:

To date the Indigenous Commission has secured \$3,000 in funding from the Duluth Legacy Endowment Fund as well as several hours of in-kind staff time and technical assistance from Indigenous Commission members, Duluth Public Access Television, Zeitgeist, and the City of Duluth. A list of words has been created for signs and place names and recorded in Ojibwe by Ojibwe language speakers. A quote for basic signs displaying Ojibwe language words in City Hall has been obtained.

It will cost just over \$3,000 to print and ship basic Ojibwe language signs to display in City Hall. With the additional approximately \$12,000 in funds promised by DPAC, the Commission's top priorities are to

1. Have QR codes printed for the signs so people can access the online pronunciation guide while looking at the signs
2. Use the existing word list to have Ojibwe language signs printed and installed in all City-owned facilities
3. If funds remain, include an artistic design component with the Ojibwe language signs

The next page contains a detailed table of project components and funding sources. Attached are the Ojibwe language sign mock-ups and the complete list of translated Ojibwe language words.

Funding Source	Description	Amount	Status
Indigenous Commission	Indigenous Commissioners walked through City Hall identifying all the English language words on wayfinding signs that needed to be translated	In-kind volunteer time	Completed.
Duluth Legacy Endowment Fund Grant	Ojibwe Language consultants to create translations and record Ojibwe words	\$3,000	Completed. Funds spent, word list and recordings produced (word list attached)
Duluth Public Access Television	Record Ojibwe speakers saying the words	In-kind staff time and studio time	Completed.
Zeitgeist	Break audio file of Ojibwe words into individual files for each word	In-kind staff time	In-process. Anticipated completion by then end of 2024.
City of Duluth	Creation of Ojibwe Language Pronunciation website	In-kind staff time	In-process. Website exists, need audio files for each word and then link each word to its respective soundbite.
DPAC grant	Production of basic signs with Ojibwe words for City Hall	Quote: total for signs and frames for all 56 words would be a little over \$3,100 (~\$55 per word) plus \$15-\$30 shipping	In-process. Quote for sign production received (sign mock-ups attached), pending additional design components to signs and DPAC approval to spend funds.
DPAC grant	Production of basic signs with Ojibwe words for all other City-owned facilities	Need quote	Not started. Would need to work with PFM to get inventory of all City-owned buildings and signage
DPAC grant	Pay Indigenous artist(s) to add artistic design component to signs	Funds proposed to go to artist(s) and to additional cost of signs with an artistic component	Not started. Would need to conduct RFP for local artists. Would need to work with City on graphic design standards, quote cannot be obtained until mock-ups of design are created
DPAC grant	QR code signs or stickers that link to pronunciation guide for City Hall signs and for Parks signs (Parks signs already include Ojibwe place names)	Need quote	Not started. Need to work with City on graphic design standards, quote cannot be obtained until mock-ups of design are created.
City of Duluth	Installation of Ojibwe language signs in City Hall	In-kind staff time	Not started. Pending production of the signs.

Duluth City Hall & Skywalk Add 8-21-24

SIGNAGE DRAWINGS



By signing these submittals, I hereby acknowledge that I have reviewed the drawings to ensure accuracy, and am approving them for production as shown. Should there be any changes from what I have approved, I acknowledge the changes will be my responsibility, and the manufacturer is not liable.

Signature

Printed Name

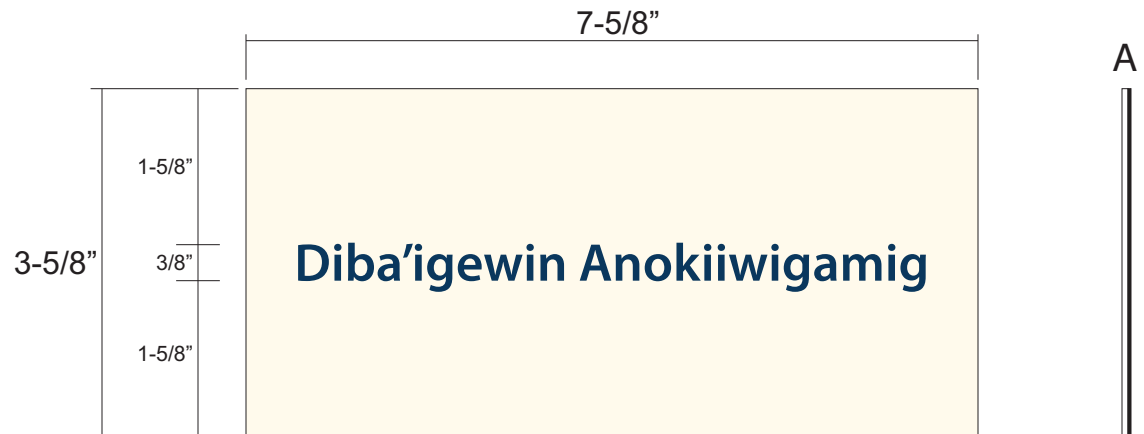
Date Signed

Revision: 1
Rev Date: 08/27/2024
Date: 08/26/2024
Drawn by: M. McGivern

Naanaagadawendang
gaye ozhichigaademagak

niisisag

Other required inserts



PART	DESCRIPTION	MATERIAL	SIZE	THICK	SURFACE/ SUBSURFACE PAINT	BACKGROUND COLOR	TEXT COLOR	CORNERS	EDGES
A	Top Sign Face	Rowmark Ultra-matte Acrylic	7-5/8" x 3-5/8"	1/16"	N/A	322-221 Matte/Ash	Printed to match 504 Air Force Blue	Square	Straight

Font: Myriad Pro Semibold - Surface printed on Part A

Mounting: 1/32" Magnet



Project Name: Duluth City Hall & Skywalk Add

Sign Type: Magnetic Inserts

Date: 08/26/2024

Qty: 3 (1 of each)

Drawn By: M. McGivern

Scale: 50%

DULUTH'S OJIBWE LANGUAGE PROJECT

OJIBWE WORDS FOR BUSINESSES

OJIBWE

Miigwech
Chi-miigwech
Miigwech aapiji
Boozhoo
Aaniin
Biindigen!
Giga-waabamin miinawaa
Baakaakosin
Gibaakosin
Inini (wag)
Ikwe (wag)
Mino-giizhigad
Zaaga'amoowigamig or Miiziiwigamig
Gwiiwizens (ag)
Ikwezens (ag)

ENGLISH

Thank you
Big thank you
Thank you very much
Greeting/Hello/Welcome
Greetings
Come in, or come inside
I'll see you again
Open
Closed
Man (men) – (restroom)
Woman (women)
(be a or have a) nice day
Bathroom, restroom (Unisex)
Boy (s)
Girl (s)

Places connected with Duluth that have Ojibwe names

Onigamiinsing (Duluth) – Place of the little portage also known as Duluth

Gichi Ode Akiing park – Place of a grand heart on mother earth, also known as Gichi Ode Akiing Park

Waabizheshikana trail – The Marten Trail

Signage for City Hall that could potentially be translated and turned into small plaques:

English	Anishinaabemowin	Comments
4th Floor:	Eko-niiwing michisagong	4th Floor
Staff only	Anokiijig eta	People who work only/worker's Only
Mayor	Ogimaawigamig Onigamiinsing	Duluth leader's room/also known as Mayor's Office
Mayor Reception Room	Ogimaa boozhookewigamig	Leader's place to greet people
• Bathroom	Zaaga'amoowigamig	Bathroom singular form
1x Male	Ininiwag	Men
1x Female	Ikwewag	Women
(unisex on this floor?)	Zaaga'amoowigamig	Bathroom singular form generic reference
2x Conference Room	INFORMATIONAL ONLY. NO TRANSLATION.	
Conference Room 4A	Endazhi-gaganooniding 4A	Where talking with each other takes place.
Conference Room 4B	Endazhi-gaganooniding 4B	Where talking with each other takes place.
• Human Rights Office	Debinawewiziwin anokiiwigamig	Rights workplace.
• City Attorney (male)	Dibaakonigewinini Onigamiinsing	City of Duluth Attorney (male attorney)
• City Attorney (female)	Dibaakonigekwe Onigamiinsing	City of Duluth Attorney (female attorney)
3rd Floor:	Eko-nissing michisagong	3rd floor
2x Conference Room	INFORMATIONAL ONLY. NO TRANSLATION.	
Conference Room 3A	Endazhi-gaganooniding 3A	Where talking with each other takes place.
Conference Room 3B	Endazhi-gaganooniding 3B	Where talking with each other takes place.
• Human Resources Office	Anishinaabe-anokiindiwin anokiiwigamig	the way humans use something.

Bathroom (I forget how many were there and what genders noted)	See possible listings from ground floor INFORMATIONAL ONLY. NO TRANSLATION	
• Council Chamber	Dibaakonigewigamig	Council house
• City Clerk	Endazhi-ozhibii'igeng gichi-oodena	Place where city documents are written.
• Mail Room	Mazina'iganan abiwining	Written goods room.
• Pact-TV	Inaatese	Be such a show on T.V.
• Pact-TV Studio	Inaatese-wigamig	T.V. Studio
2nd Floor:	Eko-niizhing michisagong	2nd Floor
3x Conference Room	INFORMATIONAL ONLY. NO TRANSLATION.	
Conference Room 2A	Endazhi-gaganooniding 2A	Where talking with each other takes place.
Conference Room 2B	Endazhi-gaganooniding 2B	Where talking with each other takes place.
Conference Room 2C	Endazhi-gaganooniding 2C	Where talking with each other takes place.
• IT (Information Technology)	Gikendamowin e'-aabadak	Use of information
• Engineering	Mazinibii'igeng	Designing things.
• Bathrooms (Plural)	Zagaa'amoowigamigoon	Bathrooms plural form
1x Male	Ininiwag	Men

1x Female	Ikwewag	Women
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother's Room 	Endazhi-odooshkabinoojiiyensiman	In a certain place with her newborn baby.
1st Floor	Netamising michisagong	1st Floor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bathroom 	Zaaga'amoowigamig	Restroom singular form
1x Male	Ininiwag	Men
1x Female	Ikwewag	Women
(any all-gender rooms in this or 2nd floor?)	Zaaga'amoowigamig	Restroom singular form
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payroll 	Diba'igewin anokiiwigamig	Pay workplace
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skywalk 	Ishpimisagong endazhi-bimoseng	The place to walk on the upper floor.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Services 	Ozhichigewin naadamaagewinan	Construction helps people.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stair A, Priley ... (missed writing out the stairs correctly) 	Note: English phrase not available. Skipped partial translation.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning & Development 	Naanaagadawendang gaye ozhichigaademagak	Planning and what they do.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1x Conference Room 	Endazhi-gaganooniding	Where talking with each other takes place.
Ground Floor:	Niisisag	Downward flooring also known as ground floor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks & Rec 	Aki-mino-ayaabajichigaadeg anokiiwigamig	Land use office

• 1x Conference Room	Endazhi-gaganooniding	Where talking with each other takes place.
• Bathrooms:	Zagaa'amoowigamigan	Bathrooms plural form generic reference
1x Male,	Ininiwag	Men
1x Female,	Ikwewag	Women
1x All Gender	Zaaga'amoowigamig	Bathroom singular form generic reference
• Staff Entrance Only	Biindigen anokijig eta	Enter working people only
Miscellaneous:	INFORMATIONAL ONLY. NO TRANSLATION.	
• Directory Signs for each floor with various rooms listed above.	INFORMATIONAL ONLY. NO TRANSLATION.	
• "Welcome" in construction services	Anamikaageng	Welcome
• "Please Ring the Bell" in construction services	Daga madwesidoon 'iw godataagan	Please ring the bell
• Kiosks	Mazinaabikiwebiniganan	Computers also known as kiosks
• Elevator Signage	INFORMATIONAL ONLY. NO TRANSLATION	
Elevator	Akwaandawaagan	Elevator
Up	Akwaandawebizo	Up (in an elevator)
Down	Nisaandawebizo	Down (in an elevator)

Duluth Indigenous Commission
Monday, February 26, 2024
411 W 1st St, Room 155, City Hall

Commissioners present: Rene Ann Goodrich, Max Bowman, Rebecca Graves, Amber Lightfeather

Commissioners interim:

Commissioners absent: Moira Villiard, Lenelle Hrabik, Phoebe Davis, Ryan Clark

Staff present: Kathy Wilson, Hannah Figgins

Note: per the request of the Indigenous Commission members, Ojibwe language words are used in the meeting minutes. Gegit is used to indicate that the Commission has come to a consensus in support of the motion.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

- Vice-Chair Bowman called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM, introductions were made.

2. Approval of January 22, 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes

- January 22, 2024 minutes. **Motion passed: Gegit - All.**

3. Public Comment

- Gabriel Peltier addressed the commission as a former Indigenous Commissioner in 2011. He has submitted an application to join the Commission again, with his primary goal to re-start the initiative for an Indigenous culture and arts center.
- A community member came to the Commission to let them know that there are a couple of Indigenous residents at Bethel who are not being allowed to smudge. Community members and city staff recalled that there was a similar issue in a County building several years ago and the Indigenous Commission assisted by writing a letting in support of the County allowing smudging. Vice-chair Bowman said they would like to confer with the Chair before going forward, but believes in the importance in supporting the Bethel residents' rights to practice their religion by smudging. The City Fire Marshall may be able to provide more information on local laws regarding fire code and the religious freedom to smudge.

4. City Reports and Updates

- **Board/Commission Liaison Updates**
 - Duluth Citizen Review Board/Police Bias Audit – no updates.
 - Duluth Public Arts Commission – Commissioner Woods reported that DPAC has allocated \$15,000 of Arts Festival funding to the Indigenous Commission for the June Pow Wow., and \$15,000 for artistic Ojibwe language signage in City Hall. Commissioner Woods provided some updates on DPAC's current projects and goals. She invited the Indigenous Commissioners to attend future DPAC meetings so the two Commissions can stay informed of each other's work and support each other. DPAC meetings are typically held right before Indigenous Commission meetings from 4pm-5:30pm
- **Other Updates/Comments from City Councilors or City Staff**

- The Police Chief will be at the next meeting, and the Mayor has the IC schedule and will let city staff know what date will work for his schedule.

5. New Business

- **June Pow Wow Planning** – Commissioners Villiard and Clark were absent, but are working on planning outside of the meetings. Updates expected at the March meeting.
- **Honor Fires** – Gaagigewendodgosiwaj Honor Fires – Commissioner Goodrich updated that this year is the third year of having these fires, with the support of City of Duluth, Mending the Sacred Hoop, Native Lives Matter Coalition. This year they would like to host fires in January, February, and May to coincide with MMIWR annual events. More information on these events was provided by Commissioner Goodrich is attached to the minutes. Babette Sandman plans to attend the March meeting to discuss other Honor Fires happening in the community.

6. Action Items

- None at this time

7. Subcommittees

- **Sobriety Feast** – no updates
- **Art in Gichi-ode' Akiing** – no updates
- **Education** – Commissioner Lightfeather had several updates. She is involved in many parent groups and committees to address disparities for Indigenous students in Duluth public schools. Lightfeather asked for a letter of support from the Indigenous Commission to bring to the school board meeting later in the week. **Motion passed: Gigit – all.** Letter attached.
- **Housing** – no updates
- **MMIWR** – Commissioner Goodrich shared informational flyers and information about recent events to the Commissioners. Information and flyers attached.

8. Ongoing Business

- **Full Moon Ceremony** – no updates
- **Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) Constitution Updates** – Commissioner Bowman shared information about the most recent draft. The draft and information on how to get involved/how to provide comments is online: <https://www.fdlconstitution.org/>
- **Decolonization and Visibility Ideas** – Commissioners discussed strategies for removing/changing problematic local art depicting stereotypes of Indigenous People and/or depicting inaccurate histories. More discussion from Commissioners and guest Peltier regarding an Indigenous Cultural Center and ways to use the Ethnographic Study the Commission funded a few years ago.

9. Announcements

- **Little Free Library Programs**, information in the Meeting packet. Consider further discussion of this at the next meeting on Monday, March 18th.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53pm

Duluth Indigenous Commission
Monday, October 7, 2024
411 W 1st St, Room 430, City Hall

Commissioners present: Rene Ann Goodrich, Phoebe Davis, Lenelle Hrabik, Rebecca Graves, Amber Lightfeather

Commissioners absent: Ryan Clark

Staff present: Kathy Wilson, Hannah Figgins

Note: per the request of the Indigenous Commission members, Ojibwe language words are used in the meeting minutes. Gegit is used to indicate that the Commission has come to a consensus in support of the motion.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

- Commissioner Hrabik called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM

2. Approval of September 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes

- September 16, 2024 minutes. **Motion passed, with requested amendments: Gegit – All.**

3. Public Comment

- No comments

4. City Reports and Updates

- **Board/Commission Liaison Updates**

- Duluth Citizen Review Board/Police Racial Bias Audit – no speakers
- Duluth Public Arts Commission – no speakers

- **Other Updates/Comments from City Councilors or City Staff**

- West Superior St Project (Senior Transportation Planner James Gittemeier presented the proposed West Superior Street Reconstruction Project, from The Point of Rocks to Carlton St.
 - Fixing utilities underneath, and reconstruct the
 - Fully funded with federal and state sources: RAISE Grants, and US Dept. of transportation
 - Project schedule began in 2022 when the grant was awarded. We are now at open house #3
 - One big thing he has heard over the years is there isn't enough trees in this corridor, so the grant included the building of a 'green corridor', they will have at least 350 trees added to contribute to shading the road and sidewalks. Transitioning from old US Highway to an enjoyable city streey. Also adding rain gardens for added water filtration, .
 - Cross City Tria I will continue to run through the area, but with many improvements.
 - Improved pedestrian and multi-transportation amenities: curb bumpouts, bus stops,

- Construction will begin in summer 2025, and continue through 2028
- **The commissioners invited Staff member Gittemeier to return next year to present further on rain gardens and their uses for storm water filtration**

5. New Business

- **Smudging at Bethel** – no updates
- **Indigenous Peoples' Day planning (October 14th)** – Commissioner Goodrich presented the flyer, which staff emailed to commissioners. She asked for feedback, before she sends it to the press. Goodrich will take out mention of the youth-led march, as they won't be able to make that happen this year.
 - Goodrich has been asking Ricky Defoe if he is available to open for this year's celebration. She hasn't heard from him yet, but she feels confident about the commissioners opening the ceremonies
 - Duluth high schools and middle schools have the holiday off
 - The students Goodrich has been in contact with , Marshall School, and Harbor City School. They would like to have a community round-dance.
 - Youth-led artbuild, but they need paint and poster board ; they have a "Bring them home" banner that the students can add to.
 - The Mayor's office accepted the request to read the proclamation at the event.
 - There are other celebrations later on in the day as well. The commission sees their event as the kick-off to the day
 - There are hand-drummers and singers coming, but there is an invitation out to more drummers.
 - Goodrich reached out to Michelle Defoe to bring her art to share and speak about. There are no monies to pay those that contribute. Indigenous Commission doesn't have a
 - Could ask Fond Du Luth for an in-kind donation for water
 - There will not be enough time to get a permit for a march, so the celebration will be held only at City Hall and in Priley Circle.
 - Renne VanNette Boarding School Resolution
 - Native Lives Matter Coalition may be willing to cover the cost of the permit, and the honoraries for handdrummers, singers, and the artists
 - Liish Kazlowski has been invited to speak this year
 - Moira has been invited to speak about the Chief Buffalo mural
 - There will be staff carriers,
 - Babbette will be invited
 - The invitation is on Facebook
 - Ivy could take photos if they find someone else to carry the Gimadgi staff, or she may know someone else that could take photos.
 - To begin at 11am. City Staff will have sound equipment ready. The permit should include the request to turn on the outlets next to the stairs.
 - Commissioner Lightfeather agreed to speak.
 - Commissioners would like more speakers to come of a variety of backgrounds. Mary Owen was suggested as a powerful speaker; she will be sent an invitation to speak.
 - Names of speakers will be sent to Goodrich to be put on the agenda for the celebration.

- Decisions will be made by email: Commissioners with a topic that needs to be addressed by the commission as a whole will be sent to staff member Wilson, who will then forward the question to all commissioners, who will then respond individually to the
- Lightfeather will speak with the Indigenoustomorrow to see if they would be open to doing

6. Action Items

- None
- Commissioner Lightfeather reported a headline that St Louis County Jail implemented a new policy that will deny native inmates the right to smudge. The Commissioners asked City Staff to try to get a copy of the full policy.

7. Subcommittees

- **MMIWR** – Commissioner Goodrich; there is no funding for families, but all are asking for financial resources to help with the search and getting boots on the ground. Annual fundraiser, Native Lives Matter, will be the future source of building a fund for families. We'll be sending an email with quotes provided for Sheila St Clair and sharing press release at IPD. Still Offering an award for Sheila St Clair
- **Art in Gichi-ode' Akiing** – no updates
- **Education** – no updates
- **Full Moon Ceremonies** – no updates
- **Housing** – no updates
- **Ojibwe Language Pronunciation Guide and Signs in City Hall** – City Staff presented the status of the project. All words are recorded, and there is a quote for the signs requested, which is only \$3,000. DPAC is willing to provide \$15,000 but want a proposal from the commission.
 - The Commission could request to add QR codes to the signs that link to the pronunciation audio file. They could also add a request to purchase art.
 - A few other city facilities could use language signs as well, such as the library or community centers. The Commissioners really like this idea, as well as the addition of the QR codes.
 - DPAC have more experience hiring local artists for specific types of projects and could help with finding someone if there is funds left after signs have been made for a few other city buildings.
 - QR Codes could be added to existing parks signs as well.
 - Staff suggested submitting the draft with these ideas to DPAC. The Commission approved. DPAC will offer thoughts in response.
- **Sobriety Feast** – no updates

8. Ongoing Business

- **Smudging at Bethel** – no updates
- **Decolonization and Visibility Ideas** – no updates // Chief Buffalo myral 2021 , will be sharing links to the history of the worl. Speakers at Indigenous Peoples day could say something about the mural and the history. They want to revieve the historu of the

9. Announcements

- **No meeting in November, and December city staff is working on scheduling a “special meeting” with City Councilors and IC. Staff will sesnd updates as they come.**

10. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm

2025 BUDGET

2025 BUDGET											
REVENUE										NOTES	
Main Fund (includes fountain change)										\$108,422	Toal at end of 2024 balance from city
Conservation & Maintenance										\$42,485	
Total Public Art Fund										\$150,907	
				MAIN FUND		CONSERVATION FUND					
EXPENSES	Committed 2024 rollover	2025 new budget	TOTAL 2025 BUDGET	Comm	Spent	Comm	Spent	2025 Actual Spent	2024 Budget minus spent	Notes	Questions
Mural startup costs Mn Power Collaboration	\$3,980	\$0	\$3,980					\$0	\$3,980	Contract is still open thru Dec 2025 and should be considered committed	
Utility Box Wraps	\$2,850	\$14,250	\$17,100					\$0	\$17,100	1 box remains from 2024 committed- \$2850 budget for 5 new boxes x \$2,850 = \$14,250	
Public Mural - GND		\$5,000	\$5,000					\$0	\$5,000	Request per packet	Questions about artist
Flex Funding: Contracts for building systems to support and amplify our work		\$10,000	\$10,000					\$0	\$10,000	systems/policies/support to include: artist application, criteria/matrix for selecting projects , RFP template, Artist Guide for mural making, updated art directory, deaccessioning policies, strategic planning, future project analysis, etc	Add this to Flex funding?
Flex Funding: Public Art		\$18,000	\$18,000					\$0	\$18,000	Could this be the bus shelter wrap? Mural business match program?	
City Hall Anishinaabe Signage	\$15,000		\$15,000					\$0	\$15,000	Desire for our funds to be used to help fund the project inclu some art on the signage. If this doesn't happen in 2025, need to communicate to Indg Comm that we need to reevaluate if we carry this project forward or not.	Because this is over the \$10K can we avoid the need for city council approval? (Do we avoid this because it's likely to be spent in smaller increments?) Payments need to be cut in chunks smaller than \$10K.
Conservation / Maintenance of Art , Statues and Monuments		\$20,000	\$20,000					\$0	\$20,000	Need assessment from MSP team to understand what is needed that Penny can't do (Per Penny's recommendation)	
Total	\$21,830	\$67,250	\$89,080	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$89,080		
Remaining Art Fund Balanceafter 2024 budget			\$61,827								