

**Duluth Public Arts Commission**

**MINUTES for Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**4:30pm-6:00pm**

**Call Meeting to Order**

President Tennis called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

**Introductions**

President Tennis welcomed new commissioners and each commissioner introduced themselves.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Bret Amundson, Jodi Broadwell, Philip Gilpin, Paula Gudmundson, Noah Hobbs  
Amanda McElray Hunter, Sandy Johnson, Mary Tennis, Christina Woods

Absent: Melissa LaTour

Guests: Classie Dudley, Delphin Starr

Staff Present: Eleanor Bacso, Steven Robertson

**Additions to the Agenda**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**July Meeting Minutes-Mary Tennis**

The June meeting minutes were approved with minor corrections. Woods made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes with a second by Amundson. The motion to approve was passed by the following roll call vote:

Amundson	Broadwell	Gilpin	Gudmundson	McElray Hunter	Johnson	Tennis	Woods
Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea

**Financial Report-Eleanor Bacso**

Eleanor Bacso shared that DPAC would not be receiving any tourism tax funding due to the COVID-19 budgetary shortfalls. Woods shared that she has written for the Community Innovation Grant in the past and this is something potentially DPAC could apply for.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **CJMM-Jodi Broadwell**

Broadwell shared that Bob's Sparkle wash is going to restrain the letters and power wash the plaza. The CJMM board is working with a young woman who has started to living in the Memorial's space. Woods asked if Deb Holman from CHUM had been contacted to help. Woods and Broadwell planned to connect after the meeting regarding this.

### **Leif Erickson-Mary Tennis**

Tennis gave the commissioners some background on Leif Erickson statue. Gudmundson said there is no interest from the Nordic Center to take on the statue (Gudmundson is on the Nordic Center board). Broadwell talked about a few different options that DPAC could do regarding the statue: breaking it down to use the pieces to create other art, remove it completely or put some sort of correct inscription on it for the time being. Broadwell is inclined to have it completed removed or reformed into a new piece. Woods shared that in the short term DPAC could put a didactic there and for the long-term plans, DPAC could put together a subcommittee to do research on the statue. McElray Hunter asked if instead of the current statue, what if there was something else that would be more impactful for the community? McElray Hunter would be inclined to remove it as well. Amundson said this is an opportunity to educate the community and brought up the fact that there is a whole park named after Leif Erickson and asked if renaming the park could be part of the whole movement. Woods shared the Indigenous Commission has looked at renaming the park, there is already a name for that area that exists in the Anishinaabe community. Gudmundson is curious who DPAC has tried contacting in regards to the statue so far. Tennis said this project leans towards a subcommittee to make a concise plan and present it to DPAC and then City Council. Tennis asked who is interested in being on the subcommittee. The interested DPAC members are: Woods, Broadwell and Tennis. Broadwell said DPAC should continue to invite Laurel Sanders. Gudmundson will ask the Nordic center who to contact from the Sons of Norway.

### **Maintenance Plan-Ashley Kolka-Lee**

Ashley Kolka-Lee was not in attendance as she recently resigned from the DPAC Commission.

### **Classie Dudley Mural-Eleanor Bacso**

Eleanor Bacso provided an update of the project's status. Classie had submitted the project proposal form to the City and it was currently being reviewed. However, Minnesota Power owns the East Plaza so there would likely be many more steps that need to be taken before final approval. Classie Dudley and Delphin Starr were in attendance and they shared their updates as well. Dudley shared that there is an organizational coalition that is supporting the project: Chum, St. Luke's, Essentia, Duluth NAACP. She has received other grants that accumulate up to \$25k. There is community support of the project as well. Tennis asked if there are other sites that would be fast tracked for this project. Dudley shared that she is willing to

wait to go through the process for this project. Tennis said DPAC could do some sort of public hearing. Commissioners discussed the proposed budget with Dudley and talked about the physical size of the project.

Hobbs joined the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

### **Superior Street Art Walk-Sandy Johnson**

Johnson asked if there are any new commissioners interested in the Superior Street Artwalk Subcommittee. Gilpin and Hobbs expressed interest in joining. Sandy is going to send out an invite to all DPAC commissioners.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Absent Narratives-Christina Woods**

There was not enough time for discussion, it was requested that this topic was added to the beginning of the next agenda.

Gilpin shared that businesses in the Hart District are doing a happy hour and was looking for recommendations of sculptors and painters to create an open festival atmosphere.

#### **Public Comment**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:11pm.**