

FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2021

The Fergus Falls Public Arts Commission (PAC) met on Thursday, January 21, 2021, at 12:00 PM. The meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the PAC members participated in the meeting through Zoom. Members present were Chair John Miersch, Naomi Schliesman, Patricia Wahl, Erinn Webb, and Michael Burgraff (representative for AC4TA). Staff present were Klara Beck and Jill Hanson.

Approval of Minutes

Michael Burgraff moved to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2020 meeting. Naomi Schliesman seconded. Passed unanimously.

Election of Officers

Motion and second were made by John Miersch and Naomi Schliesman to nominate John Miersch to continue serving as Chair of the Public Arts Commission. Passed unanimously.

Motion and second were made by John Miersch and Naomi Schliesman to nominate Patricia Wahl to continue serving as the Secretary of the Public Arts Commission. Passed unanimously.

Roundabout Lighting Update

Chair John Miersch asked for an update. Naomi Schliesman stated that we need to check our budget to see how much is available for lighting. Klara reminded commission members that budget requests must run through city council. There was some discussion about whether there was wiring at the site for electricity for lighting or whether solar lights would be a better fit for the site. City staff would talk to the Parks and Rec department about the cost for the different lighting options. Michael mentioned we could wait until Spring to move forward with this project.

Wright Park Statue Revival Update

Chair John Miersch asked for an update on the Wright Park Statue Revival. Naomi stated that we are on the waiting list of Brodin Studios for an estimate on the Wright Park Statue. Brodin Studios has also been affected by COVID, and they are behind on estimates. Naomi mentioned that Brodin Studios did contact some other companies about repairing the Wright Park Statue, but none of those companies were interested in doing the repairs.

Naomi mentioned that the concrete relief at the Fergus Falls Public Library also needs to be cleaned and/or repaired. The estimated cost for cleaning and/or repairing both the relief and the statue can be presented to the City Council after we receive them from Brodin Studios.

Wright Park Landscaping Update

Chair John Miersch asked for an update. Erinn stated that she is not able to share her residential native planting grant because the Park is public property. Klara mentioned that there has been discussions about the Parks department doing some natural plantings at Wright Park. Chair Miersch mentioned that the Fergus Falls Garden Club could help with the landscaping project once the COVID threat lessens.

Worker Statue Update

Naomi explained that Public Works would need to get estimates to replace the wood on “the Worker” statue before the plaque can be mounted on the statue. We need to wait for warmer weather before the base can be replaced. Michael asked about donations for repair of “the Worker” statue. Klara would check with Bill Sonmor about the rules for donation, but she thought people could make donations to the City and have their donation applied to City projects of their choice. Naomi mentioned maybe having Brodin Studios attach the plaque to “the Worker” statue.

There was some discussion about Brodin Studios looking at all the public artwork in Fergus Falls to see what needs to be cleaned and/or repaired. Michael mentioned the Goose Statue at the museum, the Fire Hall metal sculpture, the Lake Alice monument, the Roundabout sculpture, etc. There was some discussion and Naomi asked if the City was checking on the condition of the public art in the City. Klara noted that we do not have City staff qualified to evaluate the condition of the public art.

Motion and second were made by Michael Burgraff and Naomi Schliesman to request that the City Council look at having someone review the condition of the public art every 5 years or less. Passed unanimously.

Klara stated that she could draft a request on this motion to the City Council, but she would need someone from the PAC help her with the request. Naomi suggested having the Public Works department hire someone to access the public art and any needs for repairs to the pieces. It was mentioned that if we do not take care of our public art it would be gone.

Under the Bridge Mural Update

Patricia Wahl stated that the artist has still not submitted art examples or contacted anyone on the PAC. Consensus was to close this as a recurring piece of business until the artist reached out again.

New Business –Fergus Falls Public Library Art

Chair John Miersch asked if there was any new business. Naomi Schliesman stated that she has been working with Gail Hedstrom on the Fergus Falls Public Library art policy. Naomi read some of the high points of the policy to the PAC, including forming an art committee for the Library that would include a member of the PAC. There was some discussion about the proposed policies, including clarifying toward whom a statement on inclusion and equity is aimed- the library board, artists, and/ or the public? Naomi stated it was purposefully left open to interpretation.

Naomi stated that the Fergus Falls Public Library is asking for a recommendation from the PAC on the policy that will be presented to the City Council for final approval. Motion and second were made by Michael Burgraff and Patricia Wahl to recommend the City Council approve the Fergus Falls Public Library Art Policy. Passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:52 PM

Chair John Miersch

FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2021

The Fergus Falls Public Arts Commission (PAC) met on Thursday, April 15, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the PAC members participated in the meeting through Zoom. Members present were Naomi Schliesman, Patricia Wahl, and Erinn Webb. Absent were Chair John Miersch and Michael Burgraff (representative for AC4TA). Staff present were Klara Beck and Jill Hanson.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of January 21, 2021 were read and it was moved by Erinn Webb and seconded by Naomi Schliesman to approve the minutes. Passed unanimously.

Roundabout Lighting Update

Acting Chair Patricia Wahl asked for an update. Klara stated that the County is now the owner of the Roundabout property. Klara explained that she sent Chuck Grotte at Otter Tail County an email about lighting for the Roundabout. Mr. Grotte replied that he was not sure that adding lights in the roundabout would be appropriate due to possible interference with traffic or the creation of light pollution. Mr. Grotte requests the PAC submit a *Working within County Highway Right of Way Permit Application* so the County may review the request in more detail. Mr. Grotte stated that the application request would also need to include a detailed plan to replace the trees and shrubs that were removed by the City a few years ago without County permission, noting plantings could help block stray light from new lighting.

Klara asked the PAC if they wanted to go through the process with the County. Naomi explained that the trees were moved to the airport because they took away from the sculpture in the roundabout. Acting Chair Wahl mentioned maybe planting some lower shrubs. There was some discussion about how the lights would be in the center of the roundabout under the sculpture and should not affect traffic.

Klara volunteered to work with the City Engineering department on the application for the County. Acting Chair Wahl stated that she would reach out to some landscaping people about shrubs that might work well in that location. It was noted that the PAC would need to get approval to make the request from the City Council.

Council Request for a Professional Consultant to review Public Art Restoration

Acting Chair Patricia Wahl asked Naomi for an update. Naomi replied that Michael Burgraff had made the request to have someone review the condition of the public art and she did not have anything to report. Klara mentioned that the PAC would need to go before the City Council and request funds to do the public art restoration.

Bids for Public Art Restoration

Acting Chair Patricia Wahl opened the discussion. Naomi explained the quotes she received from Brodin Studios to do restoration work on the Joe Whitford bronze statue located on Summit Avenue and the concrete relief sculpture at the Fergus Falls Library. Naomi stated that Nick Brodin said that he could do both projects at the same time. The Whitford statue would cost \$1,675 to refurbish. The relief would cost approximately \$1,645 to patch and seal and would take two days. Naomi mentioned that the Library has an art budget and could potentially contribute some funds for the relief restoration.

Naomi mentioned she was still waiting on the estimate for the Wright Statue. She felt that project would be a lot higher because of the condition of the statue. Klara explained that the HPC is also concerned about the Wright Statue and was interested in working with the PAC on the restoration of the statue. Naomi volunteered to meeting with the HPC to discuss restoration of public art.

There was some discussion about a possible timeline for bringing the restoration request to the City Council. It was noted that restoration work would need to be done in the summer months. It was noted that approval by City Council was necessary before scheduling Brodin Studios to do any restoration.

Other Art Discussion

There was some discussion about the mural for the market building on the corner of Lincoln and Union and how some others groups were going to do the project. Klara mentioned the side of the liquor store as another option for a mural.

Erinn Webb opened a discussion about how she had heard a mobile stage had replaced the amphitheater plan. Klara explained how the City Council had worked with Michael Burgraff, A Center for the Arts Director, on this process. It was noted that the mobile stage is more flexible than a static amphitheater and less expensive. The City would own the stage and would work with the Center for the Arts and other local organizations on programming. There was some discussion about how the members of the PAC wanted to be more involved in discussions about art in community.

The next PAC meeting will be May 20, 2021 at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:32 PM

Patricia Wahl
Acting Chair

FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 17, 2021

The Fergus Falls Public Arts Commission (PAC) met on Thursday, June 17, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM. Members present were Patricia Wahl, Naomi Schliesman, Erinn Webb, Michael Burgraff (representative for AC4TA). Absent was Chair John Miersch. Staff present were Klara Beck and Jill Hanson.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of April 15, 2021 were read and it was moved by Erinn Webb and seconded by Naomi Schliesman to approve the minutes. Passed unanimously.

Mural

Naomi Schliesman mentioned that at the last PAC there was some discussion about possibly doing mural on the side of the liquor store on Union Avenue. Naomi mentioned an artist that was currently doing a mural in Morris and felt that artist could do something similar here. Naomi mentioned the artist could do a proposal for a mural that could be presented to the City Council for consideration. There was some a discussion about how a grant was wrote to cover some of the cost for that mural.

Riverfront & NEA Updates

Acting Chair Wahl asked for an update. Klara explained that the City has started Phase I of the Riverfront Improvements Project. The Phase I improvements will take place in the parking lot on the north side of the Otter Tail River. The space will include a market structure, river overlook, small entertainment area, restroom, and parking lot reconstruction. Which means the NEA grant funding is moving forward now that Phase I improvements have started.

Klara mentioned that the City and Springboard for the Arts applied for the NEA Our Town grant in 2019 to get money for public art projects for the Riverfront project. The grant was accepted in 2020, but the Bonding Bill slowed down the project. Klara stated that the City requested more time on the grant to revise the budget request from \$200,000 to \$100,000. The grant is good through June 2022, and it is a matching grant with the City contributing a 50/50 match.

Klara explained that we need to decide how the funds will be used. The City Council has given their approval for two new art pieces that need to be completed by next summer. There was some discussion about the need to get the process for the art pieces started this year so they are completed by June 2022. Michael explained how the last Roundabout art project was done with committees. Klara explained that because of the short time the PAC would be selecting the pieces. There was some discussion about working with Springboard for the Arts on the selection of an artist, or doing call for artists. It was noted that NEA proposal might determine whether a call for artist must be done and if it would have to be statewide.

Naomi mentioned that if the NEA grant does not mention a call for artist we could skip doing a call and pick a locate artist. Erinn mentioned doing an open call for a local artist. There was some discussion about what would be included in the call for artists.

Acting Chair Wahl made a motion to ask the Mayor and a representative from Springboard for the Arts to attend the next PAC meeting to work on the art project with the PAC. It was seconded by Michael Burgraff. Passed unanimously.

There was some discussion about the removal of the trees on site so Ottertail Power Company can move their power lines on the site. It was noted the timeline for the Phase I project plans is to be completed by December 2021, and Phase II will start in 2022. Klara mentioned that on Tuesdays and Thursday there are updates given on site for the project.

Budget Priorities Discussion

Acting Chair Wahl opened the discussion. Klara explained that the PAC should set some priority projects they would like to work on and go before the City Council to get approval.

Roundabout Lighting: There was some discussion about how the PAC would need to write up a proposal and present it to the City Council for approval before presenting the request to the County. Klara stated that Guy Taylor, Public Works Director, was going to look into getting some estimates for the project.

Public Art Preservation: Naomi explained that quotes she received from Brodin Studios to do restoration work on the Joe Whitford bronze statue located on Summit Avenue and the concrete relief sculpture at the Fergus Falls Library. Naomi stated that Nick Brodin said that he could do both projects at the same time. The Whitford statue would cost \$1,675 to refurbish. The relief would cost approximately \$1,645 to patch and seal and would take two days. Naomi mentioned that the Library has an art budget and could potentially contribute some funds for the relief restoration. Naomi explained that she also received a quote from Brodin Studios for the restoration work on the Wright Statue. The best-case scenario would be \$1,790 for one day of blasting, cleaning and sealing. The worst-case scenario would be \$5,922 for two – four days of blasting, grinding, chiseling, patching, sanding, and sealing.

There was some discussion about the condition of the Wright Statue and Relief Sculpture, noting they are not sealed and the concrete is falling apart. The Joe Whitford statue is bronze and could wait to be restored if needed. The PAC felt the restoration of these art pieces should be a top priority. The group felt that we should ask for funding to restore all three pieces or at least the Relief Sculpture and the Wright Statue. There was some discussion about next Council meetings.

Michael Burgraff made a motion to bring the restoration request for the Wright Statue, Relief Sculpture, and the Joe Whitford to the City Council Committee of the Whole meeting on June 30, 2021. It was seconded by Patricia Wahl. Passed unanimously.

Naomi volunteered to attend the June 30th City Council Committee of Whole meeting at 7:00 AM to present the information for restoration of the three pieces of art. The other members of PAC stated they would also come to the meeting in support of the restoration request.

There was some discussion about the base of the Worker Statue on Lincoln and how it should be replaced. Naomi stated that she would contact Guy Taylor about Work Statue base and the estimate for the Roundabout lighting.

Public Art Projects – City 150th Anniversary: There was some discussion about some of the art projects that Detroit Lakes did and doing the same thing here. Erinn suggested doing benches by the Riverfront that could be decorated by artists. Michael mentioned talking with Chris Schuelke about the current notes for the plans for the City's 150th anniversary, and how a theme is being picked for the anniversary. Michael stated the any PAC ideas can be sent to Klara.

Wright Park: Naomi asked if the Wright Park revitalation was part of the Riverfront Plan. Klara explained there were two separate plans, and Wright Park was part of the City's Master Plan that is still being developed. It was suggested that the park board would be the group to discuss the Wright Park redevelopment. Naomi mentioned that she would like to see more benches and interactive activities for families. It was noted that fixing the statue might be the first step in updating the park.

City Staff Update – Open Meeting Updates

Acting Chair Wahl asked staff update for an updates. Klara explained that the mask mandate has been lifted. Now, with the phased reopening of the State nearly complete and the rescinding of Fergus Falls' emergency order, it is time for our boards and commissions to transition from remote meetings to in-person meetings.

Klara stated starting June 1, board and commission members are asked to be in person at all meetings, with some changes to medical exceptions going into legal effect July 1:

- (1) When an elected official has been advised by a health care professional that they should not be in a public place for personal or family medical reasons,
- (2) When a state of emergency has been declared under Minnesota Statutes, section 12.31, and
- (3) For 60 days after the removal of the declared emergency, the elected official is not required to make their remote location "open and accessible to the public."

Klara explained that this allowance is only allowed three times in a calendar year.

Naomi mentioned the first Public Library Art meeting is next week.

Klara mentioned that John Miersch is looking at stepping down from the PAC and Patricia Wahl will be the acting chair until next year. Klara explained the planned process for adding members to the commissions or board. If needed we possibly find a new member sooner to help with the two new art pieces.

The next PAC meeting will be July 15, 2021 at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 PM

Patricia Wahl _____
Chair

FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
September 16, 2021

The Fergus Falls Public Arts Commission (PAC) met on Thursday, September 16, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM. Members present were Patricia Wahl, Naomi Schliesman, and Erinn Webb. Absent were Chair John Miersch and Michael Burgraff (representative for AC4TA).

Staff present were Mayor Ben Schierer, Klara Beck and Jill Hanson.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of August 19, 2021 were read and it was moved by Erinn Webb and seconded by Naomi Schliesman to approve the minutes. Passed unanimously.

Riverfront & NEA Grant Updates

Acting Chair Wahl opened a discussion on the NEA Grant for the Riverfront. Klara Beck presented the application that was submitted for the NEA grant. There was some discussion about how the original application as for \$200,000 and how we were awarded a \$100,000 grant. It was noted that the grant was a one on one match, so the City would need to contribute \$100,000. Mayor Ben Schierer explained that the \$100,000 match might not be included in the City budget, because of funding needs for other Riverfront projects that required bonding and fund raising might be needs to raise the match. Naomi Schliesman mentioned that the City should do the fund raising for the match if they are not able to do the match through bonding. There was discussion about doing grant writing for the match. Klara stated that the NEA Grant application stated that the match could not come from another grant.

There was some discussion about NEA application guidelines. Naomi discussed the workshops that were mentioned in the NEA grant application and how the workshops should be done before the RFP. Naomi explained that we could select artists from the workshop based on their creations. Naomi mentioned that Springboard would need to do the workshop this Fall, and an artist would need to be selected by January 2022 so they have time to complete their projects by June 2022. Naomi mentioned that supply shortages could push out timelines for artist. There was some discussion about the Springboard for the Arts fees.

Mayor Schierer explained that he would need to meeting with Andrew Bremseth, Bill Sonmor, and Klara Beck to discuss the budget for the art projects. He noted that the historic bridge project could be considered an art piece and how the PAC could help with art for that project. Naomi mentioned that we need follow the NEA grant guidelines and use the funds for what the grant states. There was some discussion about how the grant states that \$20,000 should be used for artistic signature for the Riverfront project. There was some discussion about how the Rotary Club is working on the creation of a splash pad and how art could be incorporated into that project.

Public Art Projects – City 150th Anniversary

Acting Chair Wahl opened the discussion and shared a flyer listing the events that Perham is doing for their 150th anniversary. Acting Chair Wahl mentioned some of the ideas that were planned for Fergus Falls 150th anniversary by the community, noting that Blaze would be doing a sculpture. Jean Bowman is applying for a grant for the 150th anniversary and maybe the PAC could get a portion of it for a project. Acting Chair Wahl mentioned there is a website that has been started for the Fergus Falls 150th anniversary celebrate called www.fergusfalls150.com

Acting Chair Wahl stated that Chamber of Commerce has come up with some ideas for the 150th anniversary. The Daily Journal is planning to do some articles throughout the year. It was mentioned that maybe the PAC could work with one of the other groups in community on a tour of the public art in the area. We could possibly put together a brochure of where public art is located in the City, noting that places like the library, hospital, and college all have art collections on display. There was some discussion about doing a liquor store mural. Naomi mentioned some public art that has been done in other communities. The PAC discussed a sculpture walk on the River walk, bricks with words engraved in them, temporary art, etc.

Public Art Preservation / Restoration Update

Klara Beck stated that she received the quote from Brodin Studios for the restoration of the Joe Whitford statue, the concrete Relief Sculpture at the Fergus Falls Library, and the George Wright statue. Naomi mentioned that Nick Brodin would be coming to Fergus Falls in October to do the restoration work.

The next PAC meeting will be October 21, 2021 at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1:18 PM

Patricia Wahl
Chair

FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 15, 2020

The Fergus Falls Public Arts Commission (PAC) met on Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 12:00 PM. The meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the PAC members participated in the meeting through Zoom. Members present were Chair John Miersch, Naomi Schliesman, Erin Webb, and Michael Burgraff (representative for AC4TA). Absent was Patricia Wahl. Staff present were Klara Beck and Jill Hanson.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 17, 2020 were read and it was moved by Erin Webb and seconded by Michael Burgraff to approve the minute with one amendment to change the dollar amount for the building mural project to \$2,500 to \$3,000. Passed unanimously.

Over the River Festival

Chair John Miersch asked for an update on the plans for the Over the River Festival planned for December 5, 2020. Michael Burgraff stated that the Over the River Festival group would love to have some physical help with the project, and are looking for volunteers. Currently, they are trying to raise some funds for fireworks. There are planning for showing a holiday movie, and they are working on a radio project for the event. Otter Cove is supporting a light show in front of the Kirkbridge. Michael noted that they are still raising funds for the Festival, and mentioned some setup needs they currently have for the events. It was suggested that maybe members of the PAC could lend support to the Festival, if they are not already involved in the Festival.

Roundabout Lighting Update

Chair John Miersch asked for an update. Naomi stated that she spoke to Ann Klefstad and she supported the lighting request for the sculpture. Ann even offered to speak to the City Council if that would help. Michael suggested doing solar lights for now. There was some discussion about lighting and Michael was going to do some reach on solar lighting. Naomi stated that she would like to do the presentation to the City Council for the request for the lighting.

Wright Park Statue Revival Update

Chair John Miersch asked for an update on the Wright Park Statue Revival. Naomi Schliesman stated that she shared photos of the Wright Park Statue with Brodin Studios. Nick Brodin mentioned that the inside of the statue could be like a sponge, and the statue could be rotting from the inside out. There was some discussion about trying to preserve the statue by sealing it, covering it, or moving it inside. It was note that these measures could actual damage the statue more. Naomi stated that Brodin Studios is interested in trying to help preserve the statue and we should try to setup an appointment with Nick soon so he can look at the statue in person and recommend what we should do to save the statue. Naomi also mentioned some art at the library that needs to be preserved and having Nick Brodin look at it too.

Wright Park Landscaping, Park Plans & New Public Art

Chair John Miersch asked for an update. Klara mentioned at the last meeting there was some discussion about doing some landscaping at the park, and it was noted that Chair Miersch is a member of the Fergus Falls Garden Club. Chair Miersch stated that he would talk to the Fergus Falls Garden Club about doing some landscape planting at Wright Park. Naomi mentioned having plantings that bloomed in the spring, summer, and fall so there would be color all season long. Erin mentioned some funds that she might have that could be used for the purchase of plantings for the park.

Under the Bridge Mural Update

Chair John Miersch asked for an update on the mural. Klara explained that Patricia Wahl had contacted Amy Erickson, the artist who was interested in creating a mural under the bridge in late September. Amy Erickson had responded that she was working on some ideas for the mural and would submit the completed art examples. Currently, Amy has not submitted her art examples or contacted anyone on the PAC.

Worker Statue Plaque

Chair John Miersch asked for an update. Klara mentioned that we have the plaque for the statue, but there has been some discussion in the past about the wood base on the statue needing some repairs. Naomi mentioned that she has not been able to contact Guy Taylor yet to have more discussions about placing the plaque on the Worker Statue, but she

would continue trying. There was some discussion about the Joe Whitford statue and getting a list of the public art in Fergus Falls.

Budget Request

Chair John Miersch asked for an update from Staff. Klara stated that we should wait on requesting some funding from the City until we have more information about the cost of repairs for the Wright Statue, possible solar lighting for the roundabout, etc. Naomi mentioned that the PAC could be working on looking for grants that we can apply for to do some of the repairs.


Klara mentioned the City did accept the \$100,000 NEA grant, but the matching funds for the grant have to come through the bonding bill. Klara noted that the bonding bill might be approved in the legislature in the near future, and that could possibly provide some funding for art projects.

New Business

Chair John Miersch asked if there was any new business to discuss. There was none.

The next PAC meeting will be November 19, 2020 at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM


Chair _____

FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
December 16, 2021

The Fergus Falls Public Arts Commission (PAC) met on Thursday, December 16, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM. Members present were Patricia Wahl, Naomi Schliesman, and Erinn Webb. Absent were Chair John Miersch and Michael Burgraff (representative for AC4TA).

Staff present were Klara Beck, Jill Hanson, and Council Member Karoline Gustafson.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 16, 2021 were read and it was moved by Erinn Webb and seconded by Naomi Schliesman to approve the minutes. Passed unanimously.

Public Art in Phase II of Riverfront Development –Joel Odens of Bolton & Menk

Klara Beck explained that Joel Odens is with the engineering firm that is designing the Riverfront Development and will be joining us today through Zoom. Klara explained how the City would be integrating public art into the Riverfront Phase II Development. Klara asked Joel to share his screen with the PAC so they could view some design concepts. Joel explained how there were plans for a splash pad some of the other design features for the area. He explained that the splash pad would be a good location for art to be incorporated into the project. Other locations were the north end of new bridge over the river, and maybe the bridge could have some architectural designs built into it. Joel did mention that the ideas for the bridge would need to be submitted by March 2022.

Acting Chair Wahl had questions about the design and some safety concerns. Joel explained some of the materials being used, noting the placement of trees on the site. Naomi asked if there are three areas for art: splash pad, both bases of the bridge, and the bridge. Joel explained there would just be two art pieces. There was some discussion about doing sidewalk art. Naomi mentioned that Moorhead did some writing on the sidewalk and/or color design. Joel stated that could be a possibility. Naomi had concerns about the NEA guidelines and deadlines. The PAC members stated that they could help the City move forward with the project and an RFP for the art. Joel listed some of the items that are normally incorporated in the RFP. Joel stated that he could help with the RFP. There was discussion about how the RFP should go out in January.

Naomi Schliesman made a motion to reach out to Springboard to help the PAC with the RFP. It was seconded by Erinn Webb. Passed unanimously.

THRIVE Walking Route

Acting Chair Wahl opened the discussion on the THRIVE walking route. Karoline Gustafson mentioned that she was representing LRHC on creating a walking path by LRHC and NP Park. It would be a one-mile walking path with art incorporated. Karoline mentioned having art on the cross walks by the park and the library. There was some discussions about the current walking path in the parks by LRHC. Karoline stated that they have a Blandin Grant for the path. Naomi mentioned a grant for eligible planting in parks and public places like fruits and vegetables. A non-profit or city has to apply for the grant. There was some discussion about possible other grants, and how Partnership 4 Health would be a good partner for walking gardens.

Public Art Projects – City 150th Anniversary

Acting Chair Wahl stated that she going to the City 150th Anniversary meeting today at 2:00 PM and would report to the PAC at the next meeting.

Public Art Preservation Update

Klara Beck stated that she received the quote from Brodin Studios for the restoration of the Joe Whitford statue, the concrete Relief Sculpture at the Fergus Falls Library, and the George Wright statue but the restoration work would not take place until March 2022 at the earliest. Klara explained that she would request the 2021 budget for art repairs be carried to the 2022 budget.

Staff Update

Klara mentioned that City Council is doing an over haul of the boards and commissions. There was some discussion about changing the number of PAC members from five to three. There was some discussion about the pros and cons of having fewer members. The PAC felt they would like to have five members with one of the five member coming from one of the art organizations in Fergus Falls.

The next PAC meeting will be January 20, 2022 at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM

Patricia Wahl

Acting Chair