

FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 18, 2024

The Fergus Falls Public Arts Commission (PAC) met on Thursday, January 18, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM. Members present were Kim Embretson, Erinn Webb, Patricia Wahl, Roger Sodsod, and Lee Smalt. Staff present were Klara Beck and Jill Hanson.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Patricia Wahl and seconded by Roger Sodsod to approve the minutes from December 13, 2023. Passed unanimously.

Lee Smalt was introduced as the newest PAC member, and Klara Beck provided a brief history of the PAC.

Election of Officers

Motion and second were made by Roger Sodsod and Patricia Wahl to nominate Kim Embretson to serve as the Chair of the Public Arts Commission. Passed unanimously.

Motion and second were made by Erinn Webb and Patricia Wahl to nominate Roger Sodsod to serve as Vice Chair of the Public Arts Commission. Passed unanimously.

NEA Grant -Updates

Klara Beck provided updates on the NEA Grant for the Riverfront development art project, explaining delays and the extended deadline to June 30, 2024. Discussion ensued regarding signage, sculpture unveiling, and forming a sub-committee to work on signage ideas. Patricia Wahl suggested that the sculpture unveiling should be an event separate from the opening of the splash pad to showcase the art and artists. Lee Smalt volunteered to organize the signage sub-committee.

Sculpture Walk Project – Kim Embretson

Chair Embretson initiated discussion about creating a downtown sculpture walk, with further discussion scheduled for the next meeting. It was suggested the PAC/ City could be the fiscal and operational host. Chair Embretson noted that the City would need to be involved in the project because pedestals would need to be installed for the art on City property.

Public Art Inventory -Update

Chair Embretson presented an updated public art inventory list with Patricia, with plans for an online listing of the art discussed.

Art Restoration

The PAC agreed to continue discussions on art restoration, including the Wright Statue, at the next meeting.

The next PAC meeting will be February 15, 2024, at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1:09 PM



Chair