

FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 15, 2024

The Fergus Falls Public Arts Commission (PAC) met on Thursday, February 15, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 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

The minutes from January 18, 2024, were approved with a modification regarding the sculpture walk project, changing "fiscal host" to "fiscal and operational host". Motion to accept the minutes as amended by Patricia Wahl and seconded by Lee Smalt. Passed unanimously.

Phase II Downtown Riverfront Sculptures – Signage & Unveiling Event

Discussions revolved around signage for the downtown riverfront sculptures, including ideas for content and logistics for the unveiling event. The Zachmanns provided statements that they would like to see included on the signage for their sculptures, which the commission liked. Klara stated that she would ask the landscape architect for the Riverfront project for ideas for signage.

Lee Smalt suggested a date of June 13 for the unveiling event, with plans for advertising including press releases, social media, and collaboration with local organizations. Lee would meet with Jean Bowman, Communications Manager for the City. There was also discussion of a children's activity in partnership with either the Kaddatz or Otter Cove (or both). Patricia mentioned getting a quote from Uncle Eddy's for ice cream for around 200 people. Klara noted that there was budget available for a cultural event through the NEA grant.


Sculpture Walk Project – Review Financial Business Plan

The commission discussed the financial aspects of a downtown sculpture walk project, including potential funding sources and the involvement of city staff and the Public Arts Commission members as grant managers. They agreed to move forward with gathering information and planning a presentation to the City Council in conjunction with a request to apply for grant funding. Motion and second were made by Patricia Wahl and Lee Smalt Wahl to move forward with the planning of a presentation to the City Council once a grant opportunity was identified. Passed unanimously.

Wright Statute Restoration

The commission discussed a possible connection for the restoration/preservation of the Wright Statue, with Erinn Webb volunteering to coordinate with the restoration/preservation group and provide updates to the commission.

The next PAC meeting will be March 21, 2024, at noon. The meeting adjourned at 12:56 PM



Chair