



Public Arts Commission Meeting

February 4, 2026

6:00 PM

Fridley City Hall, 7071 University Ave. NE, Fridley, MN 55432

Minutes

Call to Order

Chair Collins called the Public Arts Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present

Josh Collins, Chair
Maija Sedzielarz, Vice Chair
Ryan Fugleberg
Gary Osterbauer
Kara Ruwart
Gary Swanson
Frank Sedzielarz

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Jesslyn Quiram, Engineering Technician
Councilmember Ann Bolcom

1. Approve Public Arts Commission Minutes for January 7, 2026

Several corrections were noted in the minutes including a spelling error changing "hosing" to "hosting" on item 5 and to add the following update items to the workplan; Sacred Water, Shared Future, Springbrook Nature Center art project, programs and special events.

Motion by Commissioner Swanson to approve, with corrections, the January 7, 2025 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Ruwart. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

2. Art Trail Concept Refinement

Staff presented two concepts for an art trail in Fridley. One concept concentrated artwork into a walkable trail loop extending from the Fridley Civic Camps to Locke Park. The second concept focused on artwork installations in upcoming park projects with a wider geographic distribution of art installations across the City.

The Commission discussed that both concepts have merit and that opportunities to include art in new park projects should be explored. However, the group agreed that they should define a focus area so that more specific fundraising efforts can be undertaken and that the Civic Campus/Locke Park concept was the preferred area of focus.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gary Swanson to:

- *Focus the Commission's next project on a sculpture walk*
- *To define the area as being the Civic Campus and Locke Park*
- *To start with art on loan, but create a trail plan that can be expanded and include permanent art installations in addition to art on loan*
- *To request that staff develop a policy document to guide the program*
- *To set a goal for program implementation during the summer of 2027*

Second by Commissioner Frank Sedzielarz. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Draft Call for Art – Utility Box Wrap Program

Staff presented a draft of a call for art document to request submissions for a pilot program for artist-designed vinyl wraps for six utility boxes in Fridley. The Commission made the following suggestions:

- To add additional clarity around youth submissions and to make sure that it was clear if an applicant was submitting as an adult (18 years or older) or youth (Under 18 years of age).
- To have the program documents reviewed by the City Attorney
- To prohibit the use of designs created through artificial intelligence (AI)

A motion was made by Commissioner Gary Swanson to approve the Call for Art pending completion of legal review and clarification of age requirements. Second by Gary Osterbauer. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

None

Other Items

Commissioner Maija Sedzielarz shared details of an upcoming March 16th concert performance by the Fridley City Band and Fridley High School Band. An update was provided by staff on discussion with community partners to explore a public art project at Sylvan Hills Park as part of the Sacred Waters, Shared Future initiative taking place in 2026 to celebrate the Mississippi River.

Adjournment

Commissioner Gary Swanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. A second was made by Commissioner Gary Osterbauer. The motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Recording Secretary