



Public Arts Commission Meeting

November 5, 2025

6:00 PM

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

Minutes

Call to Order

Vice Chair Fugleberg called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present

Josh Collins, Chair (Arrived at 6:10 p.m.)

Ryan Fugleberg, Vice Chair

Gary Osterbauer

Gary Swanson

Maija Sedzielarz

Frank Sedzielarz

Kara Ruwart

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Jesslyn Quiram, Engineering Technician

Councilmember Ann Bolkcom

1. Approve Public Arts Commission Minutes for October 1, 2025

Motion by Commissioner Ruwart to approve the October 1, 2025 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Osterbauer. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

2. Commons Park Sculpture Concept Review with Artist Ken McCall

Artist Ken McCall joined the Commission meeting via Microsoft Teams. Mr. McCall presented his concept for a sculpture to be located at Fridley Commons Park. Mr. McCall discussed how community input was used to inform the concept, presented themes and symbolism represented in the artwork, discussed materials to be used in the sculpture, the size and scale of the sculpture and detail on design and fabrication of the art piece. Commission members asked for additional detail on items such as durability of materials, and resistance to climbing or vandalism.

The Commission and artist discussed the inspiration of the artwork being, in part, an acknowledgement of the Ojibwe people through the name of the artwork, Manoomin, the Ojibwe

word for Wild Rice, which is featured prominently in the art piece. It was generally acknowledged that an engagement process with the indigenous community would be appropriate as the artwork concept is considered for approval for final development. Several Commissioners indicated that they would share contacts they may have in their professional networks to help in the process of identifying individuals or organizations to provide input.

Motion by Commissioner Swanson to recommend the sculpture concept for approval by City Council pending an engagement process with the indigenous community. Second by Commissioner Frank Sedzielarz. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Utility Box Art Wrap Pilot Program Policy and Guidelines

Staff presented a draft policy and guideline document for a utility box art wrap program. Under the section titled "Application and Selection Guidelines", one sentence in the third bullet point, "No more than one submission requiring graphic design work of this nature will be selected." was suggested for removal for being repetitive information.

A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson to approve and recommend the Utility Box Art Wrap Pilot Program Policy and Guidelines document with the suggested edit. Seconded by Commissioner Maija Sedzielarz. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Other Items

The Commission briefly discussed upcoming agenda items and noted that a meeting with artist Ken McCall would be held at the November meeting and discussion on a vision for the Mississippi St. underpass would be planned for the December meeting agenda.

Adjournment

Commissioner Ruwart made a motion to adjourn the meeting. A second was made by Commissioner Fugleberg. The motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Recording Secretary