

City of Northfield

*City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
northfieldmn.gov*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, July 14, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

Arts & Culture Commission

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Granquist at 6:00 pm.

Present: 6 - Chair Paula Granquist, Vice Chair Martha Anderson, Commissioner Leah Rich, Commissioner Kate Woodstrup, Commissioner Anna Lisa Rustad and Commissioner Amanda Wigley

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Michael Johnson and Commissioner Emerson Carlson

ALSO PRESENT: Natalie Draper (Library Director and Staff Liaison) and Becky Novotny (Clerical Liaison)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Wigley, seconded by Commissioner Rustad, to approve the agenda for the July 14, 2025 Arts & Culture Commission meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Chair Granquist, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Rich, Commissioner Woodstrup, Commissioner Rustad and Commissioner Wigley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Woodstrup, seconded by Commissioner Rustad, to approve as amended the minutes of the May 12, 2025 meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Chair Granquist, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Rich, Commissioner Woodstrup, Commissioner Rustad and Commissioner Wigley

1. Approval of the May 12, 2025 Arts & Culture Committee Draft Minutes

Attachments: [ACC Minutes May 12, 2025 DRAFT](#)

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Discussion of Potential Changes to Art in Public Places (Percent for the Arts) Program.

Attachments: [percent slides 7-1](#)

[Ord. 1081 - 1 - Ordinance Bd and Commission Update Phase 2 v.3](#)
[061025 - CURRENT REDLINE v.3](#)

Draper recapped the City Council work session where the Arts and Culture Commission discussed potential changes to the Art in Public Places (Percent for the Arts) Program at

request of the City Council. There was no action taken at the meeting pertaining to the art fund, but there was support from the council for the changes proposed by staff. The commission discussed how valuable and important art is in the community to both residents and visitors. Many of the artists used for local projects are from Northfield or Minnesota, so the funds that go to these projects stays in the community. Only a portion of the funding for art comes from the Art in Public Places (Percent for the Arts) Program. There are grants and other sources of funding that contribute to these projects. There was a discussion regarding the proposed ordinance changes. Granquist mentioned, per the ordinance, that a financial review should be done as part of the regular agenda of the ACC. Draper said she can include a budget detail in the meeting packets in the future.

3. Update on Art in Public Places Projects.

Draper gave an update on the work done by KCI Conservation on the Ray Jacobson's fountain sculpture in Bridge Square. KCI did an assessment of other art on Bridge Square to get an idea on how much it might cost to do other restoration work on those pieces.

The Arts Guild took on managing the call for artists for the downtown murals. Applications will be accepted until July 20. The Public Art Review Committee (PARC) consisting of Commissioner Woodstrup and Commissioner Wigley will meet on July 28 to review the applications and select the artists.

Staff is working with the Arts Guild to manage the call to artists for the Ice Arena install. The call will go out soon for artists for that project.

Draper asked for input from the commission on what should be done with the large sculpture concept, intended for Bridge Square, that was created by Marlena Myle's and John Sterner. Since the Bridge Square improvements will not be happening the commission may consider an alternate location if they want to move forward with this project. A discussion was had by the commission on alternate locations for the sculpture. Ideas included the library, near the former Archer House on the Riverwalk, Riverside Park, and Northfield Memorial Pool. The consensus of the ACC was to pursue an alternate location for the sculpture. Draper will reach out to the artists to see if they would be willing to move forward with their concept.

4. 2026 Living Treasure Award Process.

Attachments: [Liv Treas Nomination Form 2025 draft](#)

Draper is seeking input from the ACC on how the Living Treasure Award event can be more sustainable in terms of budget and the capacity of staff and the commission. The timeline could change now that the event does not need to coincide with the State of the City. A discussion was had by the commission on potential changes to the Living Treasure Award timeline. The Commission will review the application and timeline at the next ACC meeting.

5. Staff Update.

Attachments: [JULYNPL2](#)
[JUNENPL](#)

Draper said there are two opportunities for ACC commissioners to attend and share their input on the reimagining of the library's grounds. Draper wants artwork to be incorporated into the redesign of the space, so it would be great to have ACC commissioners attend these open houses and share their ideas. Draper said new youth members will be starting

in the Fall.

BOARD MEMBER AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Woodstrup shared that she got to tour the Water Street Studios. It is a great space for emerging and established artists in our community.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice Chair Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Wigley, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Chair Granquist, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Rich, Commissioner Woodstrup, Commissioner Rustad and Commissioner Wigley