



Arts and Culture Commission

MEETING MINUTES RECORD

Meeting: Regular ACC Meeting **Date:** December 9, 2019 **Location:** Library Meeting Room

Scheduled start time: 4:30 p.m. **Scheduled adjourn time:** 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Harper Bechtel (youth), Arnab Chakladar, Cynthia Gilbertson (Secretary), Mark Gleason, Paula Granquist, Karna Hauck, Heather Lawrenz (Vice Chair), Edie Meehan (youth), Madeline McDermott (youth), Alyssa Herzog Melby (Chair)

Members absent: Jill Ewald, Bonnie Jean Flom, Robby Swensen (youth)

Others present: Rob Hardy (Poet Laureate), Teresa Jensen (Staff Liaison), Alice Thomas, Mar Valdecantos, Kristi Pursell

1. Call to Order at 4:32 p.m. by Alyssa Herzog Melby, Chair

2. Approval of Agenda

Melby: Proposed amendment: Move item #6 to the January meeting, move Item #10, Living Treasure Award, up to #6.

Motion to approve agenda as amended..	Motion: Gleason
	Second: Granquist
	Approved unanimously.

3. Public Comment

Matt Klooster introduced himself. Works at Carleton as director of Summer Liberal Arts programs.

4. Approval of Minutes from Meeting of November 18, 2019

Motion to approve minutes from meeting of November 18, 2019.	Motion: Gilbertson
	Second: Granquist
	Approved unanimously.

5. Poet Laureate Report

Hardy (addition to written report): Shared the chapbook he created with clients at Laura Baker Services Association; plans to continue visiting Aldrich House on a monthly basis. Working on a script about Grace Fallow Norton.

6. Living Treasure Award - Confirm selection for 2020

Members discussed the fact that the award currently allows for a “group” to be recognized as a Living Treasure. Members expressed a desire to recognize groups that make significant contributions to the arts in Northfield, but some questions were raised about how a group should be defined, and whether the Living Treasure award is the right mechanism for recognizing groups. The topic will be included on the agenda at a future meeting. **ACTION:** Hold 1/20, 2/10, 2/17 and 2/24 as potential dates for the Award Celebration Ceremony.

Motion to confirm selection of Mac Gimse	Motion: Lawrenz
	Second: Gleason

Approved unanimously.

7. Presentation: Mar Valdecantos, Chair of Human Rights Commission, on land acknowledgement and recognizing indigenous peoples

Valdecantos informed the ACC about the process underway for acknowledging the history of the land and river in Northfield. HRC is suggesting a plaque be installed by the river telling the story of the river and its original name, “Inya Bosndata”. Would like to unveil it on Indigenous People’s Day in October 2020. Perhaps the installation could have an artistic element and be handled through the call to artists / PARC process. Conversation will continue on this topic.

Pursell: The Cannon River Watershed Partnership is interested in advancing this project. They began looking into the history of the river when they were involved with the “We Are Water” exhibit last year.

8. Arts & Culture Recognitions

Granquist: Northfield Youth Choir concert coming up on Saturday, Dec. 14th at 3pm at Skinner Memorial Chapel, Carleton College.

Bechtel: Traditions concerts are this Saturday at 7pm and Sunday at 2pm at Skinner Memorial Chapel, Carleton College.

Lawrenz: The members art show is going up at the Northfield Arts Guild, reception on Jan. 10th.

Lawrenz: Thank you to the ACC members whose service is ending this year: Arnab Chakladar, Jill Ewald, Bonnie Jean Flom, and Mark Gleason.

9. Arts Advocacy in the City

Members shared relevant news from the public meetings of other Boards and Commissions.

11. ACC Slate of Officers for Next Year

Looking for someone to serve as Vice Chair in 2020.

12. Cultural Plan Implementation Update

- a. Building the Brand (Hauck) -- Doing some research, will be meeting in January and plan to meet monthly in 2020.
- b. Working Together (Chakladar) -- no meeting since last month
- c. Creative Placemaking (Lawrenz) -- working on adding a mural policy to the Public Art Policy, and addressing the question of defining a “cultural district.” Will meet again in January.

13. Other Project Updates (Questions or Comments on Written Reports)

- a. Artists on Mainstreet Initiative (Lawrenz) — Attended a meeting in Wabasha, can open it up to ten smaller artists like last year, or can do a couple of bigger projects. Still thinking about which direction to go in. Will need to be decided in January. **ACTION: Get a report from Greg regarding the follow-up on the first year of the project.**
- b. Young Sculptors Project (Hauck) — Students are starting work tonight. Sara Hanson, the artist, is a sculptor with a lot of teaching experience. Eighteen students have signed up, ranging from 9th to 12th grade. An apprentice, William Lanzillo (a Carleton graduate), will be working with the group.
- c. Convention and Visitors’ Bureau: No addition to written report.
- d. Art in City Hall (Lawrenz) — Multiple pieces have been submitted for the “Beauty of the Count” exhibit. They will be reviewed next week and the show will go up in January and will be on display through September 18, 2020.
- e. Sidewalk Poetry — no addition to report

14. Other Business

Mark Gleason generously offered to help with grant writing in the future.

Motion to adjourn.	Motion: Hauck
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	Second: Chakladar
	Approved unanimously.

Adjourned at 5:25pm

Submitted by Cynthia Gilbertson, Secretary.