

October 8, 2020

Program Reports submitted by Heather Lawrenz

Creative Placemaking Subcommittee

This group (Teresa Jensen, Matt Klooster, Heather Lawrenz and Greg Siems) completed a rough draft of the mural policy at our last meeting on September 25. It's now being reviewed for edits with the hopes of a final draft going to City Council before the end of 2020.

Art in City Hall

The Beauty of the Count exhibition on the first floor of City Hall continues through December 18, 2020. At the end of December Facilities is going to move one of the hanging systems from the North wall to a center wall that currently doesn't have a hanging system. This will unify the entire wall area where the Art in City hall shows hang. At this same time, Facilities will patch and paint the four walls where the show goes (it's been a few years since these walls have been painted, and it's needed). The next show, which is tentatively scheduled for beginning of January, 2021 is called *Artists Respond*. The theme for this show will be artwork that artists have made in response to anything they experienced in 2020. Look for a Call for Artists to go out in late October/early November, with an application deadline of Dec 7, 2020.

4x4 Gateway Corridor

This committee (Tracy Heisler, Teresa Jensen, Heather Lawrenz, Greg Siems, Bob Thacker and Alice Thomas) has a standing monthly meeting on the third Wednesday from 8-9 am. On Sept 16, we met virtually and finalized our purpose statement: **To facilitate collaboration between multiple organizations/groups in Northfield around arts and culture initiatives.** We had lively discussion over current opportunities and intersecting projects that our 4 x 4 Gateway Committee can tackle, and will continue this discussion at our next meeting on Oct 21.

Living Treasure Award

Still in discussions with Mac Gimse about options for virtual engagement in his role as 2020-21 Living Treasure Award recipient.

Mission Statement Subcommittee

Paula Granquist, Teresa Jensen, Heather Lawrenz and Matt Klooster met on September 30 to start drafting a more concise ACC Mission Statement based on the purposes and responsibilities in Ordinance 8555, and our goals in the Cultural Plan. We made some good progress, and will continue drafting when we meet again on October 14.

Artists on Main Street

Below is an article and some recent photos of one of the projects selected for 2020 Artists on Main Street, written by Northfield Downtown Development Corporation:

<https://downtownnorthfield.org/2020/10/spreading-the-love-in-downtown-northfield/>

"Spreading the Love" in Downtown Northfield

October 7, 2020

As we announced [earlier this year](#), Artists on Main Street is moving forward with two exciting projects. The first, we are happy to report, is already well underway! Local glass artist Geralyn Thelen and metal artist Dale Lewis collaborated to create "Spreading the Love," a magnificent sculpture that was just installed near the corner of Division and 6th Streets.

"The tree is a symbol of life," said Thelen, and "the leaves are heart shaped to represent love." More importantly, she added, the leaves are multicolored to demonstrate that "all are welcome in our community."

In addition to the sculpture itself, Thelen will create a corresponding 6-inch heart for every interested downtown business, creating a scavenger hunt and encouraging participants to "find the heart" of Northfield while learning more about the wide variety of businesses that make downtown Northfield so vibrant. Be on the lookout for more info on how you can participate!

