



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Arts and Culture Commission  
**FROM:** Maegin Elshaug, Planning Coordinator  
**DATE:** June 13, 2019  
**RE:** Arts and Culture Commission Meeting

The next meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission will be held on June 19 at 5:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, City Hall. If you are not able to attend, please contact staff at 701.241.1474 or [planning@FargoND.gov](mailto:planning@FargoND.gov). Thank you.

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**ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION**  
**Wednesday, June 19, 2019 5:00 p.m.**  
**Commission Chambers**  
**AGENDA**

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Approve Order of Agenda                        | Action Item |
| 2. Approval of Minutes – May 15                   | Action Item |
| 3. Performance by Theater B                       |             |
| 4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair               | Action Item |
| 5. Workplan                                       |             |
| a. Commissioner reports                           |             |
| b. Staff reports                                  |             |
| 6. Other Business or Public Comments              |             |
| a. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting July 17, 2019 |             |

Arts and Culture Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel TV Fargo 56 and can be seen live by video stream on [www.FargoND.gov/streaming](http://www.FargoND.gov/streaming). They are rebroadcast each Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

People with disabilities who plan to attend the meeting and need special accommodations should contact the Planning Office at 701.241.1474 or TDD at 701.241.8258. Please contact us at least 48 hours before the meeting to give our staff adequate time to make arrangements.

Minutes are available on the City of Fargo Web site at [www.FargoND.gov/artsandculture](http://www.FargoND.gov/artsandculture).

## ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION MINUTES

**Regular Meeting:**

**Wednesday, May 15, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in the Commission Chambers at City Hall at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 15, 2019.

The Arts and Culture Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: Arlette Preston, Deb Williams, Jon Offutt, Mark Johnson, Denise Kolpack, Joe Williams, Tracy Walvatne

Absent: Denese Odegaard, Tracy Jordre

Chair Preston called the meeting to order and welcomed Members to the meeting.

Local poet Christine Hoper began the meeting by sharing poems with the Board members.

### **Item 1: Order of Agenda**

Chair Preston noted the following Agenda items:

- Item 4 will be presented before Item 2.

Member D. Williams moved to approve the new Order of Agenda. Second by Member J. Williams. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

*Item 4 presented*

### **Item 2: Minutes: Regular Meeting of April 17, 2019**

Member Walvatne moved the minutes of the April 17, 2019 Arts and Culture Commission meeting be approved. Second by Member D. Williams. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

### **Item 3: Commission Engagement Discussion**

Member D. Williams expressed her concern that Board Members have become less engaged in discussion since moving to the new City Hall. She suggested reengaging by seeing and hearing live performances. Board Members agreed and expressed their appreciation for close-up art experiences.

*Presented before Item 2*

### **Item 4: Presenter: Officer Bloom, Community Trust Officer**

Officer Michael Bloom presented his idea of creating a mural at one of the community outreach stations. He explained the mural could be commissioned by local artists and would be designed to engage Fargo youth.

Chair Preston suggested Officer Bloom contact local artist Paul Ide from the Plains Art Museum, regarding this proposal. Member J. Williams added he works with Paul Ide and offered to initiate contact between the two of them.

Planning Director Nicole Crutchfield explained that funding for the mural and other youth programming coordinated by Officer Bloom, is funded from the Kresge Foundation.

**Item 5: Report on Minneapolis/St. Paul information gathering**

Member D. Williams gave a report from her attendance along with Chair Preston and Member Jordre at this event. Member D. Williams shared ways the Twin Cities solicit information from citizens and funding from Capital Improvement Projects.

**Item 6: Update on Capital Project**

Chair Preston informed the Board that a survey is available online to provide data to the Arts and Culture Commission for a public art project. Member D. Williams clarified that the survey would help provide the Board and staff insight from citizens on the type of public art desired and placement ideas within the City of Fargo.

**Item 7: Update on Performing Arts Center**

Chair Preston announced that the Performing Arts Center plans to take over the location of the Civic Center. The project has local support, but fundraising is on hold until cost estimates for the project can be provided.

**Item 8: Update on Sodbuster**

Ms. Crutchfield announced that Sodbuster is nearly ready to be placed in downtown Fargo after undergoing restoration. She stated the sculpture is planned to be placed on the north side of the library, in the new civic plaza space by the end of 2019.

**Item 9: Americans for the Arts Conference**

Ms. Crutchfield stated staff is available to assist in registering any Board Members interested in attending the upcoming Americans for the Arts Conference.

**Item 10: 2019 Work Plan Discussion**

Chair Preston reported that after meeting with staff and refining the plan, five different areas were recognized that directly impact the engagement of the Arts and Culture Commission. Upon further discussion by the Board, the following members expressed their interest in each of these areas:

- Member Kolpack - boosting tourism and finding new ways to evaluate art impact.
- Member Offutt - developing new ideas in the master plan.
- Chair Preston and Member Johnson - discussing ways to engage area developers.
- Member J. Williams - assisting with the Arts and Culture Commission's online presence.
- Member Walvatne - focus on funding and fundraising.

**Item 11: Other Business or Public Comment**

Member J. Williams stated the Plains Art Museum is hosting Native American artist Athena LaTocha from New York. He also shared that the Circle of Nations School in Wahpeton is dedicating a restored bison statue on May 16, 2019.

**11a. Next regularly Scheduled Meeting June 19, 2019**

The time at adjournment was 6:11 p.m.

**CITY OF FARGO ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION**  
**2019 Work Plan**

Action Steps	Outcome	How	Partners	Timeframe	Lead	Support	Progress
<b>Outreach</b>							
Develop "marketing" plan with Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) to encourage cultural tourism	Increase hotel guests, large community events featuring culture to draw visitors, expand "what to see" when you visit Fargo	Get all groups together and explore how to raise activities to next level	CVB, FM Visual Artists (FMVA), Studio Crawl, The Arts Partnership (TAP), Design Magazines	Q2	Commission	Staff	
		Meet with CVB to explore vision and method to making Fargo a cultural tourism draw		Q2	Commission	Staff	
		Develop plan and present to City Commission		October	Commission	Staff	
	Online marketing with public access to public art inventory for increased awareness; more celebrations, increased attendance/visits to public art sites; likes on public art Facebook page; public perception that Fargo is an arts attraction	Art archives, schedule one item in media every month or week	City department, social media, Chamber, leadership class	Q3	Consultant	Staff	
		Explore "Public Art in Fargo" Facebook page -- identify host, funding, etc. CVB possible host.	CVB, FMVA, Studio Crawl, TAP, Design Magazines	Q3	Commission	Staff	
		Re-examine the user friendliness of website and make improvements		Q3	Commission	Staff	
Conduct community Listening Session	Increase awareness of resident's interests/support	Invite artist to events, go to their meetings, NAM groups, pop-up sign, community events (booth), PR market/ interview and answers	Depends on issue or project	As Needed	Commission	Staff	
		Explore how to better engage the larger community					Staff with Consultant
Meetings with developers, artists/ partners for feedback and input	Increase awareness of developers interests/support	Do we do this in a large group setting? Or more intimate 1-on-1 meetings? Started this with the Capital project	Current partners, art organizations, FMVA, TAP, City of Fargo, Park District, Symphony, Fargo and West Fargo Public Schools, Native American Commission, other commissions	Q3	Co-lead with Consultant	Staff	
Cultivate partnerships through ongoing round tables		Strategy needs to be identified		ongoing / per project	Commission	Staff	ongoing
<b>Generate new ideas</b>							
RE-examine Public Art Possibilities from Public Arts Master Plan (PAMP)	Ensure that no opportunities are missed from that process	Identify artists who submitted public art possibilities to gauge current interest	Artists who submitted	Q2	Staff		
		Examine those possibilities that meet our thematic approach		Q2	Staff		
		ACC whether there is a project(s) to move forward with		Q2	Commission	Staff	
		Develop process to identify and implement major capital project	CVB	Q3	Staff		
Review City Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) develop approach to adding artistic perspective	Every Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) project is designed with creative placemaking approach	Identify process/method for involvement in the planning/design process for infrastructure projects	MetroCOG and Engineering Department	ongoing	Staff		ongoing
		Develop plan to include art in Main Ave reconstruction		ongoing	Staff		ongoing
		Research what other communities are doing with public infrastructure projects		ongoing	Staff		ongoing
		Identify scheduled projects for the next 3-4 years	MetroCOG and Engineering Department	ongoing	Staff		ongoing
		Identify funding for ongoing projects		ongoing	Co-Lead		ongoing
		Explore an artist in residence program for the City		ongoing	Co-Lead		ongoing
Integrate into other committee work in Planning Department	Integrate cultural piece with Native American Commission	Joint meeting with other commissions	Planning Department, other commissions	ongoing	Co-Lead (Nicole primary)		ongoing
<b>Evaluate</b>							
Identify and implement a method(s) to capture impact of public art in the community	Plan in place to measure impact	Research literature and resources on national level	Consultant to determine	Q2-Q4	Staff		
		Research other communities ACC's approach		Q2-Q4	Commission	Staff	
		Determine approach		Q2-Q4	Staff		
		Identify needed staff resources		Q2-Q4	Co-Lead		
		Determine what's realistic		Q2-Q4	Co-Lead		
		Use economic data from the arts economic impact study		Q3	Co-Lead		
<b>Funding</b>							
Identify a long-term plan for funding public art in Fargo	Funding will allow for continued growth	Determine level of funding needed for 5 year span	Community wide task force	Q2	Commission	Staff	
		Identify potential sources	City, CVB, private developers, foundations, banks	ongoing	Commission	Staff	
<b>Growth</b>							
Build capacity of ACC		Invite presenters to meeting		ongoing	Commission	Staff	ongoing
Build capacity of staff		Meet with community key players		ongoing	Commission	Staff	ongoing
		Maintain 3/4 employee - need "project meeting" skills		Q2-Q3	Co-Lead		
		Communicate with Mayor/Commission		Q2	Co-Lead		
		Influence budget process		Q2	Co-Lead		