



## Draft Meeting Minutes: Public Art Advisory Committee

Date: December 9, 2025  
Minutes prepared by: Sarah Kidwell  
Location: Virtual via Teams due to weather

### Attendance

- Mike Todaro
- Cheryl Caponi
- Bob Erickson
- JuliAnne Jonker
- Al Tsai
- Heather Stephenson, Dakota County Library
- Sarah Kidwell, Dakota County Public Services & Revenue Division

### Decisions Made

- Cheryl Caponi and Mike Todaro will serve on the Burnhaven Library Subcommittee.

### Agenda

- Approval of Agenda / Chair / Approval or Modification
- Approval of Minutes / Chair / Approval or Modification
- Per Diem Requests will be emailed / All / Member Signature
- Sub-Committee Progress Updates
  - Unity Trail Subcommittee: Mike Todaro & JuliAnne Jonker
  - 2026 Art Contest Subcommittee: Al Tsai
- Unfinished Business
  - Dakota County Blueprint Public Art Plan: Via Partnership Staff
- New Business
  - Create Burnhaven Library subcommittee for artwork RFP during refresh
- Announcements
  - January Meeting: Tuesday, January 13 – Election of Officers

## Next Meeting

Date: January 13, 2026

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: TBD

Agenda items: Election of Officers

## Meeting Notes

### Approval of Agenda: Chair

Bob Erickson moved to approve the agenda, and it was seconded by Mike Todaro. The motion passed.

### Approval of Minutes: Chair

Bob Erickson moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, and it was seconded by Julianne Jonker. The motion passed.

### Per Diem Requests: All

Per diem requests will be distributed via email.

### Sub-Committee Progress Updates

- **Unity Trail Update**

Beth Landahl provided a written update that was distributed through email in an updated agenda packet prior to the meeting.

- **2026 Art Contest Subcommittee: Al Tsai**

Al Tsai gave an update that the student art contest. The contest will open on Monday, December 1, 2025, and close on Friday, March 27, 2026. The artist reception and announcement of winning artwork will be held on Monday, April 20, 2026. Al has emailed the information to the principals in the county.

Due to a State Auditor decision, gift cards can no longer be accepted as a donation to municipalities to use as rewards or incentives. We will need to think of other methods to recognize student artists, like articles in the local newspapers and sending the information to the school principal.

- **Wentworth Library Subcommittee: Cheryl Caponi**

Cheryl Caponi reported that an artist has been selected and that the Library and County Attorney's Office are completing the contracting process.

## Unfinished Business

- **Dakota County Blueprint Public Art Plan**

Lil Leatham provided a written update that was distributed through email in an updated agenda packet prior to the meeting.

Bob Erickson shared comments about attending the General Governance and Policy Committee meeting on December 2. Bob and Al Tsai both attended to present the 2026 Work Plan for the Advisory Committee. Their takeaways from the meeting were that:

- Our Advisory Committee work is important to the Board.
- The Blueprint is important in securing future funding.
- Connection to arts and beauty is important during tough times.

## New Business

- Create Burnhaven Library subcommittee for artwork RFP during refresh

The Burnhaven Library is completing the design process for a refresh in 2026. The library will close in the spring of 2026 and is expected to reopen in the spring of 2027.

Cheryl Caponi and Mike Todaro will serve on the subcommittee.

## Announcements

- **January 13 meeting** – Election of Officers