



## Meeting Minutes: Public Art Advisory Committee

Date: 3/11/2025  
Minutes prepared by: Sarah Kidwell  
Location: Wescott Library, 1340 Wescott Road, Eagan

### Attendance

- Katryna Baune
- Mike Todaro
- Cheryl Caponi
- Bob Erickson
- JuliAnne Jonker
- Al Tsai
- Annika Phomsamouth
- Claudia Garcia, U of M student
- Heather Stephenson, Dakota County Library
- Teresa Mitchell, Dakota County Public Services & Revenue Division
- Sarah Kidwell, Dakota County Public Services & Revenue Division

### Action Taken

- Appropriate \$25,000 from the Public Art Advisory Committee fund balance to the Public Art Plan process.

### Decisions Made

- For their financial contribution to the Public Art Plan project, the Advisory Committee would like to:
  - Take a larger role in the planning process,
  - Have one-quarter of installment payments to the vendor be from the Advisory Committee funds and not have their contribution made in one lump sum,
  - Be informed of the milestones for the work goals that align with the funding payments; and
  - Review the contract with the vendor.

## Agenda

- Approval of Agenda / Chair / Approval or Modification
- Approval of Minutes / Chair / Approval or Modification
- Per Diem Requests / All / Member Signature
- Sub-Committee Reports / All
  - Dakota County Public Art Plan
    - RFP selected: VIA
    - Funding request: \$25,000
  - 2025 Student Art Contest Subcommittee
    - Theme: Thriving Together
    - Deadline: March 28, 2025
    - Judging: Process
  - Unity Trail Subcommittee
  - Parks Artist-in-Residency Pilot Program
- Unfinished Business
  - Review Stakeholder list
- New Business
  - Preservation and display of model courthouse

## Next Meeting

Date: April 8, 2025

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Wescott Library, Eagan

Agenda items: Subcommittee Updates, 2025 Student Art Contest

## 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 Cheryl Caponi. The motion passed.

### Per Diem Requests: All

Per diem requests were distributed to each member to sign for today's meeting.

## Sub-Committee Reports/Updates

- **Public Art Plan**

Six responses to the RFP for creating a framework for a public art plan were received and three companies were selected for interviews. Via was the proposal selected and their proposal was distributed with the meeting agenda.

The total cost of the project is \$100,000, with \$75,000 coming from funds already set aside for planning in the County's budget. \$25,000 is being requested from the Advisory Committee for the project. For their financial contribution to the project, the Advisory Committee would like to:

- Take a larger role in the planning process,
- Have one-quarter of installment payments to the vendor be from the Advisory Committee funds and not have their contribution made in one lump sum,
- Be informed of the milestones for the work goals that align with the funding payments; and
- Review the contract with the vendor.

Bob Erickson moved to appropriate \$25,000 from the Public Art Advisory Committee fund balance to the Public Art Plan process, and it was seconded by Mike Todaro. The motion passed.

- **Art Contest Subcommittee: Al Tsai**

Al Tsai gave an update on the 2025 Student Art Contest. The subcommittee would like to host a reception before the end of the school year, identify a donor who could contribute prizes to contest winners, identify locations to hang artwork physically and digitally, and judge submissions at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

- **Unity Trail Subcommittee: JuliAnne Jonker and Mike Todaro**

No update.

- **Parks Artist in Residency Pilot Program**

No update.

- **Music in the Park Subcommittee**

Mike Todaro volunteered to be on this subcommittee.

## Unfinished Business

- **Review Stakeholder List**

Continue to develop and create a list of stakeholders for the Advisory Committee. This discussion led to identifying a need for a single-source to promote art events and opportunities across the county.

## New Business

- **Preservation and display of model courthouse**

Dakota County accepted a replica of the original Dakota County courthouse made entirely out of toothpicks from Jerry Hackett of Shakopee, who has made several of these replicas from around the state. County Administration seeks advice from the Advisory Committee regarding:

- What is the best way to preserve this model?
- What is the best way to display this model?

The Advisory Committee recommends a large acrylic box that would cover the model and protect it from damage and dust. The County should contact the City of Hastings for display in the old courthouse building that is now City Hall since it may be more meaningful to the staff and community to be on display inside the building that it represents.