

Arts and Culture Advisory Committee Minutes - 4/7/26

Call to order at 5:33pm

Roll Call

Madeline Goodman - Present
Mateo Rangel - Present
Johanna Worley - Present
Walker Derby - Present
Kendal Mentink - Present
Ashley Saari - Present

Maddie moves to excuse Athena Stanley - Kendall seconds
Maddie moves for an unexcused absence for Travis G, Walker seconds
Maddie moves to excuse Susan Estler - Ashley seconds

Minutes

Walker moves to approve March's minutes in May, Maddie seconds

Announcements

League of Women Voters is using the Marquette Compass to advertise
Bonsai Club is kicking off, first Thursday of the month

Public Comment

None

Chair Report

Great job on the annual presentation and thank you to everyone who was in attendance -
Maddie
Staff and Committee members were in attendance which was appreciated. Feedback was
positive following the presentation - Tiina

Jason Quigno came up to discuss 7 Grandfather Teachings. Staff went down to visit his studio in Grand Rapids to potentially purchase another piece for the trailhead. Staff spent a day at Meijer Gardens to research potential ideas for Marquette. Staff also presented to Grand Rapids Art Prize/DDA which was well received and staff in turn learned about social and economic change and how the art community handles it.

Noted that Fisher Street School in Marquette could be a future housing/art space, with Lexie Belles from Superior Makerhouse working on the project.

Tiina presented to Rotary about the cultural trail, NMU President Chris Olsen was in attendance.

Old Business

Annual Presentation - Timing was good, presentation was complete and was well received. Maybe add text to be distributed to the public. Could the committee have access to the document ahead of time to leave notes virtually as updates are made?

New Business

Athena wanted to put her name in for Vice Chair but we will table until she is present.

Art Awards are open and the public, committee members included, can nominate. It's anonymous. Noted that it is a struggle to get nominations. A subcommittee will be formed by August, after the July submission deadline, to help with applications. Ashley offered her LSCP email blast to the committee to encourage people to attend. The Farmer's Market may also be willing to help get the word out. Art Awards will be on November 8, 2026.

Tiina went over the history and logistics of Art Stroll and whether it needs to be revitalized. We will discuss again when Susan is here, as she was a participant in the previous event. Amelia will be invited to discuss as well.

Maddie motions to table discussions surrounding Peg Hirvonen Bandshell and Cultural Trailhead updates, Ashley, seconds.

Public Comment

Annabelle Besonen - Discussion about potential partnerships with NMU and student orgs, etc. for Art Stroll

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:31pm

Submitted by Walker Derby

R. Walker Derby, 4/7/2026