



City of Marquette, MI

Meeting Minutes Marquette Public Art Commission

Wednesday, May 14, 2026

6:00pm

Peter White Public Library: Peter White Conference Room

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: 6:07

- a. Present - Brianna Hobbins, Emerson Graves, Alison Taras, Hannah Snow

2. Agendas

- a. Approve today's agenda
 - i. Added "pier benches" to unfinished business in May 14th Agenda
 - ii. Allison motioned to approve today's agenda, Emerson seconded
- b. Consent the minutes of the April 8, 2026 regular Marquette Public Art Commission meeting
 - i. Tabling consent of minutes due to sudden departure of secretary, Abby LaForest

3. Announcements

4. Public Comment:

Comments may not exceed three minutes per person. Please state your name and physical address when making public comments. The time for board members' response is at the end of the meeting.

- a. Val Mackey - 2173 Center Street Marquette, MI (906) 450-3283
 - i. Idea: collection of plastic and other items normally thrown away to create murals, and other kinds of large scale art. "Keep the Great Lakes Clean" - using garbage from events in town that produce a lot of trash. Could be a Moosewood Collab or Superior Watershed. Could be a community involvement for collecting trash.
- b. Brian Shier 403 E Park Street Marquette, MI - runs the Farmers Market and DDA
 - i. Ice Festival - live carving artist, snowbank artwork, community snow sculptures, bring in the students, ice candles/luminaries etc. - looking for some funding from the board. He would like an answer by July.

5. Presentations

6. Officer Reports:

- a. MPAC Chair Report – Brianna Hobbins
 - i. Abby LaForest has stepped down - hopes to rejoin down the road
 - ii. MI municipal art contest - Brianna is going to hang up artwork from her students at city hall
 - iii. Hannah Snow has joined the board

7. Other Reports:

- a. Staff Liaison Report – Tiina Morin, Arts & Culture Manager
 - i. Her trip to Philadelphia for “Monument Summit” was amazing - got to hear Elizabeth Alexander speak, got to chat with her. Devin Henry - took down a Robert E. Lee statue. It was great to hear from artists and administrators that create monuments. Thanks the board for permission to go.
 - ii. Going to discuss having a special meeting at the end to go into this more indepth.
- b. Committee Reports

8. Unfinished Business

- a. Updates
 - i. Trail Head
 - 1. Terry Gilfoy and Mike Hortin Tiled Fireplace
 - a. Wants to make the tile look like stone - had mock ups, scaled drawings
 - b. Wants to represent what Marquette is all about and is incorporating that into carvings on the tiles
 - c. Board invites Terry back to June meeting for last update before installation
 - 2. MPAC Capital Enhancement Recommendations
 - *Iban Garden artwork loan - potential
 - a. Quigno fish
 - i. Board decides to “pause” for now
 - b. Bike rack ideas for RFP
 - i. Board decides to “pause” for now
 - ii. Tiina will look into more bike rack information
 - c. Schedule a special meeting with Molly Jackson of neighborhoodlgassworks for a commissioned piece
 - 3. Hans: Ceiling sculpture - not up yet, but should be soon
 - a. Furniture review - sofa for space
 - b. Thinking of something durable for coffee tables, side tables - can email Tiina with some ideas
 - 4. Public Art Landscape Installation
 - a. No updates
 - 5. Lions Park Sign Creative Ideas
 - a. No updates
 - ii. Freedom Monument
 - 1. No updates
 - iii. Seven Grandfathers Teachings Monument

1. No updates
- iv. Cultural Trail
 1. Rotating Story Marker Art Exhibition: Loonsfoot Aldred art commission
 - a. No updates
- v. Kids Cove Archway and Mural
 1. Tiina showed some mockups from Signs Unlimited
 2. Would like to see samples of materials, colors
- vi. Speakdock Benches
 1. Desire for continuity

9. New Business

- a. Children's art show for opening of Trail Head
 - i. Pausing this for now
- b. Future Project and Marketing ideas
 - i. Pausing this for now

10. Motions

- a. Alison Taras moves to approve Sign Unlimited for Kids Cove sign with proposal, samples of materials, colors etc. Emerson Graves seconds. Passed unanimously
- b. Emerson Graves moves for Tiina to start RFQ for Kids Cove mural. Hannah Snow seconds. Passed unanimously
- c. Emerson Graves moves to have a special meeting to cover stained glass enhancement at cultural trail head, Kids Cove sign and mural RFQ, and Trail Head furnishings on May 28th at 6 p.m. Hannah Snow seconds. Passed unanimously.
- d. Emerson Graves moves to begin the first Speardock story bench as originally intended. Brianna Hobbins seconds. Passed unanimously.
- e. Alison Taras moves to approve consultation with the Massey family on the Speardock story bench. Hannah Snow seconds. Passed unanimously.
- f. Alison Taras moves to consult with DPW about removing unapproved plaque on a public art collection Speardock bench and work on an alternative solution that aligns with original intent Brianna Hobbins seconds. Passed unanimously.

11. Public Comment: Comments may not exceed three minutes per person. Please state your name and physical address when making public comments.

12. Comments from Commission members

13. Comment from the Chair

14. Comments from the Staff Liaison

15. Adjournment 7:59

**Next Marquette Public Art Commission meeting: June 10, 2026 at 6:00pm. Marquette City Hall:
Commission Chambers**

Secretary:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Smith", written in a cursive style.

6/10/26