

City of Marquette Arts & Culture Advisory Committee

January 9th, 2024

5:30 PM

Minutes

Call to Order

- Jamie Weeder calls to order at 5:34 pm

Roll Call

- Jaime, Madeline Arquette [Madeline A.], Caden, Jon, Madeline Goodman [Madeline G.], Mateo
- Travis and Walker excused absence
 - Motion to excuse absences

Public Comment

- Jacob Darner – 730 High Street:
 - Local artist from Marquette area
- Sally Davis – 1711 Grandview Drive:
 - Here officially as Mayor
 - Visiting all the different committees to see how to optimize communication
 - Thank you for giving your time and talents to be a part of this committee
 - Wishes to understand how the committee is run

Consent Agenda

- Madeline A. motions to approve the agenda, Caden seconds
- Caden motions to approve November minutes, Madeline G. seconds

Reports

- Chair Report – Jaime Weeder
 - We need to work on understanding our roles as Advisory Committee members
 - Deep diving into initiatives, going to commission meetings, being a representative of Arts & Culture. As we go through the meeting work on understanding what kind of involvement
 - Upon the City's Master Plan reveal, doing our part to understand how our committee helps enact it within the scope of our roles
 - The committee could work on being more substantive outside of meeting times and in the community in general
- Manager Report – Tiina Morin (Amelia Pruiett)
 - Happy new year! We have new members/promoted staff and are taking this time to recenter in alignment with the Arts & Culture Master Plan
 - Office Strategic Planning
 - Innovate MQT – EDI

- Wrote the agreement in the form of a grant so that IMQT can subsidize Amelia's full-time status
 - Part of it is a partnership continuation (Make It MQT) but the other part is EDI (equity, diversity, and inclusion) based using arts and culture as an access point to improve that initiative in the greater community.
- Public Gallery Program
 - (Amelia) Our office helped manage the Deo Gallery (in partnership with Lake Superior Art Association (LSAA))
 - COVID made gallery functions fall apart, especially with a lack of collaboration between various exhibit spaces
 - Now there is a shared committee and general application process for the major public galleries in Marquette
 - Bi-monthly rotating schedule for shows
 - In the long-term (as the MACC moves spaces) this program was designed to be self-sustaining and serves as a case study for creative collaboration
- Artists in Excellence
 - Grown significantly since last update
 - Financed by UPHP
 - Students are more secure in majoring in the arts in secondary education and many have altered their focus to be solely creative
 - Trying to expose students from outside Marquette to careers available within the City.
 - There are more large-scale projects being planned such as the mural in Negaunee's high school and more...
 - Potentially getting funds from the community foundation, state recognition, etc.
- Upper Peninsula Arts and Culture Alliance
 - MACC helped found it and they are happy to report that it's becoming an independent creative organization that has more weight
 - More regional based projects and state recognition allows for more opportunities for funding across the entire Upper Peninsula
- Public Art Commission
 - Dragon Fly
 - Project at the forefront of MACC agenda
 - Seven Grandfathers
 - Stones have been picked up and are being processed by the artist
 - Oscillation
 - \$10,000 from Public Art Commission, \$5,000 from the DDA, etc. but since it's so large-scale this is a good opportunity for a partnership collaboration case study
 - Winter Lights Festival – branding the integration of winter lights, laser shows, concerts, holiday art sales, etc. all under one umbrella to lessen the burden on each individual organization
 - Maintenance

- Need to spend \$20,000 to maintain the Father Marquette statue at Cultural Trailhead/future MACC office
- Jon motions to approve reports, Caden seconds

New Business

- Marquette [MQT] Compass
 - Primary point of communication for the MACC regarding events, strategic planning, etc.
 - Trying to start a monthly newsletter
 - New(er) components:
 - Community calendar
 - Creative classifieds (RFPs, applications, etc.)
 - Public & Private/Public Art directories
 - Tool kits (advocacy, economic development, and other informational materials)
 - What can we (as advisory committee members) recommend as the top areas of focus out of the areas listed above?
- Art Week
 - 2024 plan is beginning to be constructed that allows for more efficiency with tighter deadlines and utilizing the MQT Compass as a streamlining tool
 - Trying to optimize the process and ensure that there isn't too much overlap with pre-existing events and that city staff doesn't need to be as involved/present as in years past.
 - Impact Report – Worked with independent contractor to collect metrics and other impact data to quantify and measure for reporting.
 - General advisory committee consensus is that Art Week should continue as a tool for community engagement however, some new information processing system post-event should be implemented to lessen the burden on staff
- Cultural Trail & Trail Head
 - Project has reached the stage for Advisory Committee involvement
 - Signage contractor (Urban Ecosystems) is opening the door for interdepartmental collaboration (within the city and other organizations/committees/commissions) and wish to dive deep in the creative context of the project and cultural context of the community
 - Advisory committee will be meeting with them during a special working session in the first week of February
- Cultural Center/Offices
 - Wanting the design between the building and the surrounding grounds to be collaborative and intertwined while also utilizing it as a means of storytelling
- Band Shell (Venue)
 - Working on RFQ for an architect that will hopefully go live in February
 - City Band is heavily involved however, it's a community bandshell so ALL parties that would be utilizing the space will be brought in for feedback

- Annual Art Awards
 - Tabled until next meeting

Old Business

- Community Master Plan
 - The grand reveal is in February
- A&C Master Plan
 - Goal is for it to come out in Fall of 2025
 - Using Creative Community Builders as a contractor (same as with the previous A&C Master Plan)
- Economic Impact Study
 - Data is in staff possession
 - Discussion is tabled until next meeting

Good of the Order

- Caden - Record show March 28th, first personal art show at Contrast Coffee March 1st
- Jaime – Thinking of doing a musical at an interesting venue, needs a full band

Adjourn

- Adjourn at 6:59 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Madeline Arquette". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Madeline" and last name "Arquette" clearly distinguishable.

Madeline Arquette, Arts & Culture Advisory Committee Secretary