

# Marquette Arts & Culture Advisory Committee Meeting Draft Minutes

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

5:30 p.m.

Marquette, Michigan

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**Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee was held in Peter White Public Library, Marquette, MI on Tuesday, May 6. The meeting was convened at 5:35 p.m.

## Roll Call:

Present: Chair Maddie Arquette, Vice Chair Tom Adolphs, Secretary Athena Stanley, Walker Derby, Maddie Goodman, Youth Mateo

Absent: Travis Gerhart (excused)

Staff present: Arts and Culture Manager Tiina Morin

**Motion:** Moved by Maddie A., seconded by Walker D. to excuse the absence of Travis G.  
Motion carried unanimously.

## Approval of the Agenda:

**Motion:** Moved by Maddie A., seconded by Tom A. to amend the agenda to move the old business item definition of "arts and culture" to the next meeting of June 3, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** Moved by Maddie A., seconded by Walker D. to approve the amended agenda.  
Motion carried unanimously.

## Approval of Minutes:

**Motion:** Moved by Maddie A., seconded by Maddie G. to amend the meeting minutes from April 1, 2025 to...

- ...move "Red Ribbon for Cultural Trailhead Meeting" and "One-Pager from Arts & Culture Center" to "Art Week".
- ...take "Public Gallery Program – Artist Reception", "NMU Earth Day Water is Life Festival", and "Art Awards Budget" and move them to under "Other Reports", "Staff Liaison Report".

Motion carried unanimously.

**Announcements:** None.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Officer Reports:** None.

## Other Reports:

### 1. Staff Liaison Report – Tiina Morin, Arts & Culture Manager

Art Week 2025 – "Stories" Theme

- Giant sign installation featured for Seven Grandfather Teachings.
- Discussed unveiling of Cultural Trail for Wednesday 25 June.

#### Personnel Updates

- Seasonal Staffing.
- Two full-time seasonal employees begin May 12 to cover staff member's maternity leave.
  - One will focus on design content and another will focus on daily administration.

#### Cultural Trail & Capital Projects

- Cultural Trail signage ground to be prepped by early June and installation of signs slated for week prior to Art Week.
- Trailhead construction contract up for City Commission review.
- Scaling back construction due to high costs; seeking funding to complete art project (e.g., ceiling art).
- Waiting on 2% funding from the Sault Ste. Marie and Keweenaw Bay Indian Communities for Cultural Trail Artwork.

#### Bandshell Project

- Contract with Miron Construction signed.
- Demolition and construction begin May, targeted completion by mid-November.
- \$1.6M raised so far; \$2.2M needed. City Band continuing fundraising efforts.
- Tristan Luoma ensuring updates on Marquette Compass and is liaison between City Band Fundraising Committee and the City.

#### Public Gallery Transition

- The Arts Center gallery will now be operated under PWPL and transition is complete.
- Library to assume management of all galleries due to Arts & Culture Center relocation.

#### Reception: Marquette County High School Art Show

- Scheduled for May 15.
- Awards presented to participating local galleries and schools (e.g., Zero Degrees, NMU).

#### NEA Our Town Grant

- Includes Seven Grandfather Teachings project.
- Reimbursed for Seven Grandfather Teachings; still waiting for remaining NEA grant funds.

#### Michigan Arts and Culture Council Grant Programs

- Currently paused; dependent on federal and state funding.

## **2. Art Awards Committee**

Advertisements have gone public.

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### **1. Arts & Culture Master Plan**

10 Year Master Plan revision in progress

- Cultural Trail and Trailhead will significantly influence the upcoming Cultural Master Plan.
- Tiina is drafting communications to begin collecting proposals.

Title and Branding Discussion

- Proposal to rename from “Arts and Culture Plan” to “Cultural Master Plan” to reflect broader community development goals.
- Clarification needed: Does this title change require City approval?
- Reflects a strategic shift away from focusing solely on the arts and toward holistic culture-based planning.

#### Integration with Broader City Planning

- Recent discussion with Forecast Public Art explored how the Cultural Master Plan can align with the City’s overall Master Plan, especially around priorities like placemaking and public art.
- Will incorporate elements from the Public Art Strategic Plan and position the Cultural Trail as a central feature.

#### Vision and Function

- Reimagining the office as a resource hub for cultural development.
- The Cultural Trailhead envisioned as a compass to community-wide cultural assets.
- Intent to collaborate more closely with Northern Michigan University.

#### Next Steps

- Tiina to share a draft of the updated plan at the next meeting.

## 2. Art Week

#### Youth Engagement Idea

- Discussed scavenger hunt to encourage youth connection and participation along the Cultural Trail.

## New Business:

### 1. Cultural Trail Story Gallery

#### Story Marker Details

- 250-word limit per marker; QR codes will link to extended stories and additional content.
- Some stories will be prepared in advance; no individual names will appear on physical markers to maintain inclusivity.
- Physical submission forms will be provided to encourage public story contributions, historical or contemporary.

#### Inclusive Storytelling Approach

- All stories are welcomed.
- Submissions may be considered for future features; send suggestions to Tiina via email.

#### Upcoming Collaboration

- Friday meeting with Tyler Dettloff from Native Studies to explore adding Anishinaabe language lessons through audio integration.
- Potential for grant funding or themed audio tours (e.g., by topic or voice).

### 2. Monuments and Memorials

#### Grant Overview

- \$110,000 awarded from Forecast Public Art (via Mellon Foundation) to explore how the U.S. builds and engages with monuments.
- A \$25,000 sub-grant was allocated for Phase 2 of the Midwest Memory Project focused on shifting public memory through monuments and memorials.

#### Current Partnerships & Progress

- Ongoing contract development with KBIC (Keweenaw Bay Indian Community); attorney reviewing terms.
- Tiina traveled to Minnesota with a KBIC partner to meet with experts and observe monument-related projects.
- A toolkit is being developed from the research and collaboration.

#### Key Observations & Inspirations

- Projects that stood out:
  - Trail of Tears Monument (Missouri)
  - School shooting memorial (Ripley Reservation)
  - Historic Black schoolhouse turned cultural site
- Emphasis on educating communities and paying cultural bearers for their expertise.

#### Strategic Goals & Questions

- What monuments exist in our community? Who do they represent?
- How can the Seven Grandfather Teachings inform a new monument and broader community understanding?
- Explore project sustainability, evaluation, and public engagement post-installation.

#### Advisory & Involvement Opportunities

- Public Art Commission to select the final project.
- Tiina welcomes participation from ACAC members; encourages identifying individuals for training or workshops through Forecast.
- ACAC can provide advisory feedback based on public input and community conversations.

#### Additional Proposal

- Katers Foundation collaborating with the American Legion and veterans groups to propose podium installations honoring the Constitution and veterans.
- Emphasis on educational programming for schools and broader community meaning-making.

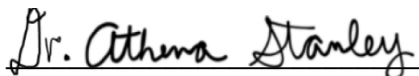
**Public Comment:** None.

**Member Comments:** None.

**Chair Comments:** Thank you for your time.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by



Dr. Athena Stanley, Secretary  
Marquette Arts & Culture Advisory Committee

5/27/2025

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Date approved