



City of Marquette, MI

Meeting Minutes Marquette Public Art Commission

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

6:00pm

Peter White Public Library - City of Marquette Arts & Culture Center

1. 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Alison Taras, Lauren Tilma, Amy Stephens, Emerson Graves, Tiina Morin, Amy Stephens, Brianna Hobbins, and public guest Hannah Snow

Absent: Jacqueline Wagner, Abigail LaForest

Motion: Lauren motions to excuse Jacqueline and Abigail. Seconded by Emerson. Approved by all.

2. Agendas

- a. Approve today's agenda

Motion: Alison motions to approve agenda. Emerson seconds. Approved by all.

- b. Consent the minutes of the December 10, 2025 regular Marquette Public Art Commission meeting

Motion: Lauren motions to omit extra zero on dollar amount and remove the word 'consultation' under Unfinished Business, and remove Lauren from the present list on roll call. Alison seconds. Approved by all.

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.

5. Presentations

6. Officer Reports:

a. MPAC Chair Report – Brianna Hobbins

- i. Amy's, Lauren's, and Jacqueline's terms end soon. Most likely all will not be applying for reappointment and thus at least three seats will open, which includes the roles of vice chair and secretary.

7. 7. Other Reports:

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

- i. Deo Gallery public call to artists coming soon
- ii. City band will have red ribbon-cutting ceremony at new Hirvonen band shell 6/25
- iii. Soft opening in August, grand opening in September, of new Cultural Trailhead's public spaces
- iv. Fringe Fest, Fresh Coast Festival on the horizon for this coming fall
 1. Alison adds that Revolve's conference is moved to the end of August. Tiina suggests involving the conference with Jason's Ishkode fire sculpture in some way

b. Committee Reports (as needed)

c. Newsletter

- i. Alison and Brianna will meet to update events (approx. 3 events). Newsletter will

then be resent for fresh eyes post winter break.

8. Unfinished Business

- a. Updates
- b. Freedom Monument
- c. Seven Grandfathers Teachings Monument
 - i. Jason plans to visit 2/14, paid through Forecast grant, to meet with cohort assigned to the monument, to overall share ownership
 - ii. Jason wonders if contract language can change to expand sourced materials from Great Lakes region (compared to Michigan, previously), for Wisconsin stone preference. Tiina and all agree with the change request.
- d. Cultural Trailhead
 1. Ceiling sculpture
 - a. Hans continues to work on fireplace shelving; he visited space with contractors recently
 2. Public Art Landscape
 - a. Meeting with Eibens and City staff at end of February; questions around perpetual maintenance
 3. Interior Public art enhancements
 - a. Tiina states wants/needs for Arts and Culture to provide a resource hub and to collaborate with other entities like NMU and Baumier to do so, beyond just a map
 - b. Likewise, Tiina mentions a full plate for Arts and Culture staff
 - c. Tiina offers printed presentation for Cultural Trailhead...
 - i. Tiina proposes gallery wall in place of map in public lobby of Cultural Trailhead; perhaps becoming/being part of public art collection
 1. Amy suggests a smaller wall map at least somewhere; agreement shared
 - d. Alison and Amy bring up the idea of a mosaic where exterior brick is missing; agreement shared
 - e. Tiina suggests commissioning Jason to create a small moquette of the Seven Grandfathers Teachings Monument; and overall asks if MPAC's funding can focus on similar Trailhead public art enhancements
 - f. Tiina suggests commissioning Terry Gilfroy for local floral/fauna tile, instead of current commercial tile, proposed for fireplace surround

Motion: Amy motions to approve seeking a contract with Terry Gilfroy, dependent on presenting three designs, with maximum funding of \$6,000 from City funds. Alison seconds. All approve.

- g. Commissioner thoughts on losing focus for non-Trailhead-related public art and public visibility are exchanged
 - i. Alison brings up wanting presence of MPAC logo in/at Cultural Trailhead building/grounds
 - ii. Alison and Lauren mention reserving minority percentage of funding for potential outreach and/or temporary public art every year but understand focus on Cultural Trailhead
- e. Kids Cove Signage: Sign company quotes
 - i. No updates; sign-makers are currently ill/unavailable
 1. Arts and Culture will put out RFPs

9. New Business

- a. Newsletter update for February
 - i. (see committee report above)

- b. Staff Presentation
 - i. (see Interior public art enhancement above)

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

11. Comments from Commission members

- a. Amy suggests a special meeting for planning larger public art; a “dream session”
 - i. Brianna states we should come prepared with potential dates at next meeting
- b. Amy and Lauren relay their passion for public art and sadness in not being to apply for reappointment due to logistical reasons

12. Comment from the Chair

13. Comments from the Staff Liaison

14. Adjournment 7:50 pm

Submitted by Alison Taras

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Taras". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font. A long horizontal line is drawn above the signature, extending from the left side of the page towards the right, ending in an arrowhead.