

**CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

AGENDA

**5:30 p.m.
Thursday, September 22, 2022**

**City Hall Council Chambers
4200 Mills Civic Parkway**

**Members of the public wishing to participate telephonically, may do so by calling:
515-207-8241, Enter Conference ID: 907 289 852#**

- 1. Call to Order / Approval of Agenda**
- 2. Citizen Forum**
- 3. Approval of Minutes of August 25, 2022 Meeting**
- 4. Old Business**
- 5. New Business**
 - A. Presentation – Proposal for “Hello, River” Project – BRAVO/Great Outdoors Foundation
- 6. Committee Reports**
 - A. Events Committee
 - B. Communications Committee
 - C. Exhibition Committee
- 7. Project Work Group Reports**
 - A. Railroad Park Public Art
 - B. DART Art Shelter
 - C. Raccoon River Park Public Art
- 8. Staff Reports**
 - A. Arts, Culture & Enrichment Supervisor
 - B. Director of Parks and Recreation
- 9. Other Matters**
- 10. Receive, File and/or Refer**
 - A. City Council Communications

The City of West Des Moines is pleased to provide accommodations to disabled individuals or groups and encourages their participation in city government. Should special accommodations be required please contact the City Clerk's office at least 48 hours in advance, at 222-3600 to have accommodations provided.

WEST DES MOINES PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
Thursday, August 25, 2022

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Brenda Sedlacek.

Commission	Brenda Sedlacek <i>Chair</i>	Mahesh Mathrubutham <i>Secretary</i>	Jeff Phillips <i>Vice Chair</i>	Ryan Crane	Rita Luther
Present	X	X		X	X
Commission	Diane Boyd	Amenda Tate			
Present	X				

Staff	Sally Ortgies <i>Director of Parks & Recreation</i>	Ryan Penning <i>Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation</i>	Allison Ullestad <i>Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Supervisor</i>	Tina Tate <i>Secretary Parks & Recreation</i>	Marnie Strate <i>Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Coord.</i>	Kevin Trevillyan <i>Council Liaison</i>
Present	X	X	X	X		

On Item 1. Approval of Agenda

Crane moved to approve the agenda as presented. Boyd seconded. Motion carried, 5 ayes.

On Item 2. Citizen Forum

No report.

On Item 3. Approval of Minutes of July 28, 2022 Meeting

Luther moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mathrubutham seconded. Motion carried, 5 ayes.

On Item 4. Old Business

No report.

New Business

On Item 5A. Motion – Approval of Call for Artists – 2023 Art on the Campus Exhibit

Mathrubutham moved to approve the Call for Artists – 2023 Art on the Campus Exhibit as presented. Luther seconded. Motion carried, 5 ayes.

Ullestad stated that the only change made to the Call for Artists form was using the word compensation instead of stipend. Boyd suggested that previous art exhibitions, including “Progression”, should be recognized. Ullestad explained that the form directs them to the website where there is a link to show previous exhibits as well as information about the amphitheater public art. Crane asked about mileage/travel expense reimbursement for an artist traveling to install their exhibit. Ullestad mentioned that this question has not come up previously and that the artists are responsible for all the costs, equipment, and labor. This process could change in the future as the Executive Committee has had discussions regarding increasing compensation to assist with the installation of artwork and possibly keeping the exhibit displayed for a longer duration. A survey will be sent to artists for feedback. After 11 years of Art on the Campus, the Commission is very happy with the exhibits that have been presented each year.

On Item 5B. Motion – Approval of 2022 Art on the Campus People’s Choice Award Selection Panel

Mathrubutham moved to approve the 2022 Art on the Campus People's Choice Award Selection as presented. Crane seconded. Motion carried, 5 ayes.

Ullestad clarified that the People's Choice Award is for the current Art on the Campus exhibit and the winning piece will receive \$500. Now in the third year of judging, the selection panel will include Kevin Trevillyan (WDM City Council Liaison), Susan Watts (Owner of Larson-Olsen Galleries, still waiting on confirmation), Greta Engelbert (VHS Sophomore Art Student), as well as a public vote.

On Item 5C. Motion – Approval of 2022 WDMurals Best in Show Award Selection Panel

Boyd moved to approve the 2022 WDMurals Best in Show Award Selection Panel as presented. Crane seconded. Motion carried, 5 ayes.

Ullestad discussed the selection panel for the WDMurals Best in Show including the following: Heather Schebel (WDM Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Chair), Julia Franklin (Artist, BRAVO Community Investment Specialist), and the public vote through an online survey. There is still a vacancy for a High School or College Art Student. Boyd suggested checking with Walnut Creek High School because she spoke with a student about how important the art experience was for him. The winning muralist will receive \$300 and be featured in WDM Magazine at the end of September.

On Item 5D. Review – Public Arts Communications

Ullestad provided an overview of the website and where to find specific information on the public art pages. Any public art events or exhibits are posted through social media on Facebook and Instagram.

Committee Reports

On Item 6A. Events Committee

No Report.

On Item 6B. Communications Committee

No Report. The Communications Committee will be meeting at the end of September.

On Item 6C. Exhibition Committee

No Report.

Project Work Group Reports

On Item 7A. Railroad Park Restrooms Public Art

Orgies stated that there are two vacancies in this work group. A final attempt will be made to recruit representatives from the Historic WDM Valley Junction Neighborhood Association and Valley Junction Residents' Association. Construction will soon be completed on the Railroad Park restroom and the vinyl banner with the QR code, including a survey for artwork, will be installed.

On Item 7B. DART Bus Shelter Public Art

Ullestad stated there is still a vacancy for a DART Stakeholder. DART still needs to build the bus shelters so the start date for this work group can be more flexible.

On Item 7C. Raccoon River Park Playground Public Art

Ullestad stated with the help of Melissa Clarke-Wharff, the vacancy for the parent of a child with special needs will likely be filled soon.

Staff Reports

On Item 8A. Arts, Culture & Enrichment Supervisor

No report.

On Item 8B. Director of Parks and Recreation

Penning discussed his position as Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation. With the RecPlex fully operating, he will have more involvement with the Public Arts Advisory Commission.

Ortgies stated that the Public Art Master Plan is still being reviewed. Phillips tracked his changes and comments. The Executive Committee will meet to finalize the master plan draft before it is sent to the Commission for approval.

On Item 9. Other Matters

Ullestad mentioned that the Executive Committee would create a process for identifying new ideas for future projects and unexpected opportunities.

Luther and Mathrubutham discussed their experience at the Iowa Arts Summit. The focus was on how artists can integrate both their business and creative sides to create a sustainable living. They also touched on the importance of involving the public to increase funding and engagement.

Receive, File and/or Refer

On Item 10A. City Council Communications

Crane moved to adjourn the meeting. Boyd seconded. Motion carried, 5 ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Tate
Secretary

ATTEST:

Mahesh Mathrubutham
Public Arts Advisory Commission Secretary

**CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

DATE: September 22, 2022

ITEM: Presentation – Proposal for “Hello, River” Project – BRAVO/Great Outdoors Foundation

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None at this time

SYNOPSIS: Staff was approached by Maggie McClelland of the Great Outdoors Foundation and Sally Dix of BRAVO to discuss a partnership on a public art installation at the future 1st Street bridge access point. Back in 2019, Bravo and Polk County received a \$125,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for a public art piece that would help communicate water safety. Over the last several months, the organizations have been working with an artist duo, +/& (Plus, And), who is based out of Minnesota on their proposal for “Hello, River”. This piece will not only help communicate the flow of the river based on water levels through the use of a hydrophone (or some other audio device), but it will also be a source for further engagement with area waterways.

The group has done several site visits with the artists to look at potential access point locations for the installation of the piece, and the future site of the access point near 1st/63rd Streets is the preferred installation site.

Staff met with McClelland and Dix on Wednesday, September 14, to learn more about the project and the Commission’s possible involvement. Staff recommended that McClelland and/or Dix attend the Commission’s September meeting to present the proposal for the “Hello, River” Project.

BACKGROUND: None

OUTSTANDING ISSUES (if any): None at this time

RECOMMENDATION: None at this time

Lead Staff Member: Allison Ullestad, Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Supervisor

STAFF REVIEWS

Department Director	Sally Ortgies, Director of Parks and Recreation
Appropriations/Finance	
Legal	
Agenda Acceptance	

PUBLICATION(S) (if applicable)

Published In	
Dates(s) Published	

SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW (if applicable)

Committee	
Date Reviewed	
Recommendation	

10A

**CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING COMMUNICATION**

DATE: September 6, 2022

ITEM: Motion – Approval of Agreement – 2022 Art on the Campus Artwork Purchase – “Confluence”

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Approximate expense of \$16,500 from the FY22-23 Public Art Fund budget for the artwork (\$15,500 / \$17,500 purchase value minus \$2,000 artist exhibition fee already paid by the City for Art on the Campus) and installation (estimated at \$1,000). A donation covering the costs will be made by an anonymous donor through the Friends of WDM Parks and Recreation. The Friends will then reimburse the City for all purchase and installation costs with the reimbursement placed back into the Public Art Fund.

BACKGROUND: Public Arts Advisory Commission Exhibition Committee members Rita Luther and Mahesh Mathrubutham met with staff members Allison Ullestad and Sally Ortgies on May 5, 2022, to review and discuss the possible purchase and subsequent donation of the artwork, “Confluence” from the 2022 Art on the Campus exhibit. Staff suggested the artwork be permanently installed in front of City Hall. City Manager, Tom Hadden, artist, David Zahn, and the anonymous donor all approved of the location. Renderings of the placement are attached for reference.

The Public Arts Advisory Commission approved the recommendation to purchase “Confluence” at their meeting held on May 26, 2022, with the expectation that reimbursement of the purchase and installation costs be made by the anonymous donor through the Friends of WDM Parks and Recreation.

The artwork description and photos of the artwork are attached. If approved by Council, the footing will be installed as soon as possible, and the artwork will be moved after the 2022 Art on the Campus exhibit is completed on November 15, 2022.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES: None

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council approve the agreement to purchase “Confluence” by David Zahn of Moline, IL, to be installed at the front of West Des Moines City Hall located at 4200 Mills Civic Parkway.

Lead Staff Member: Allison Ullestad, Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Supervisor

STAFF REVIEWS

Department Director	Sally Ortgies, Director of Parks and Recreation
Appropriations/Finance	Tim Stiles, Finance Director
Legal	Richard Scieszinski, City Attorney
Agenda Acceptance	

PUBLICATION(S) (if applicable)

Published In	N/A
Dates(s) Published	

SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW (if applicable)

Committee	N/A		
Date Reviewed	PAAC 5/26/22		
Recommendation	Yes	No	Split