



# City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

## Meeting Minutes Ann Arbor Public Art Commission

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Wednesday, October 21, 2015

4:30 PM Marcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Basement, conference room

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### CALL TO ORDER

*Meeting called to order at 4:40pm*

### ROLL CALL

*Members present: Bob Miller, Jim Simpson, Connie Rizzolo-Brown, Patti Smith, Lauren Thompson, John Kotarski and Craig Hupy*

*Members absent: Marsha Chamberlin*

*Guests: Area High School Students, Glen Wiczorek and Mike Nearing*

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Motion - To amend the agenda to include New Business items; Discussion of CIP and the Cloud of Color donation  
- Approved*

### PUBLIC COMMENTARY

*No comments*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*No quorum for prior meeting*

### COMMUNICATION ITEM

*Public Meeting Reminder for Art Commission - The Public Art Commission is responsible for planning potential art projects and setting desirable goals to be pursued during the fiscal year. Members of the Commission have an interest in the placement, creation and design of public art within the City of Ann Arbor. The Commission is run by its members with staff support. The Public are welcome to attend and can provide feedback during the Public Commentary section at the beginning or at the end of each meeting.*

### NEW BUSINESS

*Capital Improvements Plan - Staff currently wrapping up the CIP. During the off year on a 2 year cycle, staff can open projects and adjust them before moving forward. Staff would like to have a discussion with the commission re the criteria used to establish*

art throughout the City. Opportunity to involve the commission early in the process in case projects need to be adjusted or revised.

Jim Simpson is currently reviewing the selection criteria for art projects and will meet with Deb Gosselin of Systems Planning to review the CIP plan before establishing the selection criteria.

Cloud of Color - Is an art piece owned by Washtenaw County and produced by German artist, Ursula Buchegger, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the City of Ann Arbor and Tübingen, Germany, Sister City partnership. The County has offered this piece to the Art Commission. Staff would like input from the Commission on whether they are interested in acquiring this piece. Staff has briefly reviewed the piece in its currently location and believe it could be located in the Atrium which was designed to hold an additional 500 pounds. More discussion on moving the piece, its desired location and the required maintenance to care for the piece is needed.

Motion - Vote to accept the Cloud of Color artpiece from Washtenaw County?  
-The Commission accepts the donation of the Cloud of Color artpiece with its location to be determined at a later date.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Recap of Canoe Imagine Art - Overall a very successful partnership. Discussion re maintenance schedule of the pieces and key items that need attention in the future -

- 1) Project Managers need to be involved early. They become a liaison between the commission and the artist. Their input early in the process provides a better vision for the artist with additional details that may not have been considered originally.
- 2) Foundations for these pieces became an issue which required additional funding. Project management earlier in the process can help avoid these types of issues.

Foundations were an issue during the Arbor Winds project. Its important to share an engineering perspective with the artist; beneficial in the future when designing and planning their artwork.

Laura Rubin of the Huron River Watershed has a desire to contact other liveries to extend canoe art up and down the river. The Watershed is currently working on their river trail and is interested in providing "points of interest". Currently there is a surplus of plastic kayaks, might be an interesting project to tackle. Huron River Watershed will take the lead with support and input from the Art Commission and city staff.

Manchester Tower Art Project - Selection of drawing from the five finalists will take place at City Hall and will be open to all city residents. Only one vote per resident. Voting to begin early November and end before the Christmas holiday.

Arbor Winds Project - Project has been completed. Very excited to be a part of the project and see it come to fruition. As the city engineer on this project, Mike Nearing states that this was an exciting project for him to be a part of from beginning to end. He encourages everyone to go out and see the piece at differing times of the day, etc. Katherine Widgery has designed a piece that provides varying detail depending on

*light, time of day and viewing angle. City staff expressed their excitement for the process and the ability to work one-on-one with the artist. Sharing the engineering perspective with the artist.*

*Signage on art work throughout the city has become an issue. Several pieces that do not show artist recognition need signage. Mike Nearing will contact his resources to see what can be done to add a standard placard to pieces with no signage.*

*Stadium Boulevard Reconstruction Project - The A2 Arts Center will administer this project. Proposal from A2 Art Ctr to City will arrive soon. Community members will be part of the selection committee. Total cost around 60k. While the funding is limited, this should be enough to remove the existing retaining wall and replace it with some wonderful art.*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting adjourned at 5:45pm*