



*** All present are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with our City's Core Values ***

OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

of a meeting of a City Board, Commission, Department, Committee, Agency, Corporation, Quasi-Municipal Corporation, or sub-unit thereof.

Meeting of: **WAUSAU ARTS COMMISSION**

Date/Time: **Monday, July 24, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.**

Location: **City Hall, Board Room**

Members: Sarah Watson, Alex Eichten, Mara Mullen, Shannon Pueschner, Sean Wright, & Tom Fleming

AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION (All items listed may be acted upon)

- 1 Welcome and introductions
- 2 Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission
- 3 Approve minutes of April 26, 2023 meeting
- 4 Discussion and possible action on recommending next Poet Laureate
- 5 Update on Rotary sculpture at 146 W. Washington St.
- 6 Next meeting date
- 7 Adjournment

This Notice was posted at City Hall and emailed to the Media on 7/20/23.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the City of Wausau will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities. If you need assistance or reasonable accommodations in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call Brad Lenz at (715)261-6753 or the City's ADA Coordinator at (715) 261-6620 or e-mail clerk@ci.wausau.wi.us at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation.

Other Distribution: Alderpersons, Mayor

WAUSAU ARTS COMMISSION

Time and Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room of Wausau City Hall
Members Present: Tom Fleming, Kathy Foley, Mara Mullen, Sarah Watson, Sean Wright
Members Excused: Linda Prehn, Alex Eichten
Others Present: Brad Lenz

In compliance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and transmitted to the *Wausau Daily Herald* in the proper manner.

Welcome and Introductions

Lenz called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m. and introductions were made. Lenz said that a new Chair and Vice Chair should be elected at the next meeting.

Approve minutes of December 1, 2022 meeting

Motion by Foley, second by Fleming to approve the minutes. Motion was approved unanimously, 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on process for selecting next Poet Laureate

Lenz said that Dawn's term is up this fall. The process for selecting the next poet should begin soon. He said the idea would be to have the new poet introduced at the Central Wisconsin Book Festival in the fall. He said we could follow a similar process as last time, which was having a subcommittee review and make a recommendation to this commission. He said the members from last year's subcommittee are willing to help again, and they may have another person interested.

Foley said the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets met in Wausau last year and there was an event at the art museum. She said Dawn did a lovely job representing Wausau as our Poet Laureate. She said the Poet Laureate is an excellent program to continue and people should be reminded that the literary arts are part of the broader arts community.

Lenz added that the subcommittee has expertise in this area, and he thought they did a good job of vetting the applications last time.

Watson asked when the RFP would go out and when approvals would be needed. Lenz said that city council should probably approve the nomination in early September. This commission should make their recommendation in August. The subcommittee will need time to review the applications and there will need to be a window for the applications to be open. He thought the window should open sometime in May and stay open for 4-6 weeks.

Foley suggested that the notice hit social media and the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets, in addition to the State Poet Laureate system.

Fleming made a motion to follow the same selection process as last time using the same subcommittee. Foley seconded. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Update on Rotary sculpture at 146 W. Washington Street

Lenz said that Council approved the new design and confirmed the location. He said after that, the MOU between the City, Rotary, and the artist was executed. He said that staff is meeting with the artist at the site on Friday to go over final details on lighting, concrete work, and anything else. Lenz displayed the most recent rendering. The committee discussed the design and prior versions of it.

Update and discussion on funding for future public sculptures

Lenz said that an application was submitted to a local Foundation seeking funding for a new public sculpture, similar to what was done for the “In the Pines” sculpture. He said that although we were encouraged to apply, the application was not awarded.

Watson asked if there is a plan for where new sculptures would go. Lenz said that a master plan was done a few years ago by a UW-Madison student, but there isn’t a specific location determined for the next one. He said there are options, depending on who funds it and what their preferences may be. He said an alternative could be working with WOZ on something for the mall redevelopment site. Foley agreed with that suggestion. Wright noted that public art can enhance the gathering spaces. Discussion followed.

Lenz mentioned previous discussions of rotating or temporary installations, and said this body could assist others who might take up such a program. Foley said there are examples in other cities, but they take seed money and management. Watson asked about murals and adding them to publicly owned property. Discussion followed on the role of an arts commission with murals and the maintenance of them.

Next meeting date

Nothing was discussed for this item.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Fleming; seconded by Foley. The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.