Cultural Arts Committee

Thursday, October 15, 2026 – 6 P.M.

Novi Civic Center – Council Chambers

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
Brazwell, Scarozza, Staab, Stroup – present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Added a debrief/ update with Mayor Pro-Tem Casey
Approved unanimously

PRCS STAFF REPORT:
Recreation Supervisor Jenneva Kayser said that Diwali Fest planning was on track. There will be a large outdoor tent for dining space, restaurants will be outside, the art gallery display will be moved upstairs or viewing, the Activities Room will be used for a photo booth. Fireworks to conclude the at 8:15pm.

Villa Barr Art Park received 43 residency applications and selected six artists. Three visiting artists will use the house and adjacent studio, while three local artists will use the external studio. Cultural Arts Committee member Glenn Stroup assisted in evaluating the applicants. Offers to display in the atrium gallery will be extended to local artists not chosen for residency.

MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Casey was invited to attend to provide input on the work completed by the committee thus far and to clarify the intent and direction of the committee once the Cultural Arts Strategic Plan is presented to City Council.

The members of the Cultural Arts Committee will present art opportunities and priorities (strategic plan) to council, as members of the community who are invested in expanding the arts. There are no pre-determined outcomes for the committee. There are currently five members, but that may be expanded to seven if additional community members would like to join. A committee chair will be chosen at the November meeting to assist with creating the agenda and identifying topics to be discussed. There are currently no city dollars set aside for funding committee projects.

Once the strategic plan is presented to council, the committee's focus will shift to assisting staff with accomplishing the agreed upon goals. The role of staff and committee members will be defined on a case-by-case basis.

The Cultural Arts Strategic Plan will reference both the 2050 Plan and placemaking in the Economic Development Plan, engaging the Community Development and the Economic Development Departments.

Opportunities discussed included community art projects for the new police and fire buildings, the Grand River corridor, including City West and the Town Center Study,

both of which have art included in the documents. the Corridor Improvement Authority, current available sculpture pads, school buildings and involvement, partnership with the Chamber of Commerce. Also discussed were a variety of program-based ideas, including but not limited to, an art map, student art at the Civic Center, influencer highlighting Villa Bar Art Park, chalk art, theatre programs at Fuerst Park, and an arts specific podcast.

Committee members interested in serving as chair should contact Tracie Ringle before the next meeting.

Future meetings will begin at 5:30 to allow for more time to meet before PRCS Commission meeting. Additional meetings may be added in the new year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7pm.