

**Red Wing Arts & Culture Commission
Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
May 20, 2026**

Members Present: Chair Katie Nolan; Commissioners Zamira Mendoza (Attended virtually due to illness), Stephanie Rogers, Alyssa Riegelman (Attended virtually due to scheduling conflict), Gary Stone, David Culver, Mark Granlund, and Samuel Brown

Members Absent: Commissioner Wert (excused absence)

Others Present: Melissa Hill, Staff Liaison; Michelle Leise, Public Information and Engagement Officer; Heather Lawrenz, Red Wing Arts Assistant Director; Jordan Buck, Prairie Island Indian Community Tribal Administrator Administrative Assistant; Franky Jackson, Prairie Island Indian Community Tribal Historic Compliance Officer; Jasmine Fiddler, Honoring Dakota Project Director of Education and Programs; Jessie Childs, Artist Apprentice; Darrell Campbell, Artist; and Patrick Langbein, RiseUp Partnership Events and Communications Manager

1. Call to Order

Chair Nolan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted. Chair Nolan and Commissioners Mendoza, Rogers, Riegelman, Stone, Culver, Granlund, and Brown were in attendance.

Commissioner Wert previously indicated he would be absent.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Culver, seconded by Commissioner Granlund, to approve the agenda as drafted. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. Motion to Approve Minutes.

- 1. March 18, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 2. April 15, 2026, Workshop Minutes.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Culver, seconded by Commissioner Granlund, to approve the minutes as drafted. A vote was conducted, and the motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

5. Public Comment

Chair Nolan reviewed the public comment procedure.

No one wished to address the Commission.

6. Motions & General Business

A. Presentation on Art Installation at Levee Park.

Michelle Leise, Public Information and Engagement Officer with the City of Red Wing, stated that Levee Park Circle overlooks the Mississippi River and was designed to feature artwork as a “*Welcome Home*” piece. The City of Red Wing and the Prairie Island Indian Communities Tribal Historic Preservation Office have been partners in the planning. Franky Jackson, Prairie Island Indian Community Tribal Historic Compliance Officer, added that cooperation among all parties has helped nurture and support the arts. Mr. Campbell is an elder of the Prairie Island Indian Community and an enrolled member.

Heather Lawrenz, Assistant Director with Red Wing Arts, mentioned that a Midwest Memory Grant through the Mellon Foundation was approved for the Honoring Dakota Project.

Jasmine Fiddler, Honoring Dakota Project Director of Education and Programs, stated that the monument's goal was intentional and community-minded, which is important for bringing the community together.

Commissioner Stone asked about the ongoing maintenance. Ms. Leise explained that the Municipal Arts Fund would help cover the maintenance expenses. Mr. Campbell confirmed that the artwork would be coated with a sealant that would last at least 50 years, minimizing maintenance.

Commissioner Rogers mentioned that the City's long-term goals include honoring Chief Red Wing, and the artwork symbolizes this effort. Mr. Jackson provided clarification on the artwork's general design, including the symbols found within the Bell Creek archeological site along the riverbank.

Commissioner Culver thanked Mr. Campbell for offering the artwork as a gift to the City of Red Wing and also for their hard work. Commissioner Mendoza added that the artwork is a very special gift to the City. Commissioner Reigelman also thanked the group.

Commissioner Granlund asked whether the base has been designed to be detached and reattached in the event of a flood situation. Mr. Campbell stated that the base would be anchored and removed only by City staff. Ms. Leise confirmed that the Public Works Department has funding within the budget for flood mitigation efforts.

Commissioner Granlund requested that the finalized design and the material safety data sheets be added to the presentation to City Council.

a. Consider Motion to Approve a Recommendation to City Council that the artwork be accepted as a donation to the City of Red Wing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Culver, to approve a recommendation to City Council that the artwork be accepted as a donation, with a condition that the material safety data sheet for the coating be added. A vote was conducted, and the motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

B. Motion to Approve \$300 from the Municipal Arts Fund in Support of the Art in the Park Summer Series through Red Wing Arts.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to approve \$300 from the Municipal Arts Fund in support of the Art in the Park Summer Series through Red Wing Arts. A vote was conducted, and the motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

C. Creative Laureate Program Award Selections.

Commissioner Mendoza presented the most updated scoring sheet to the Commission and stated that Chair Nolan had a conflict of interest with Applicant D. The following ranking was presented for each applicant: Applicant A. with 30.5 out of 50, Applicant B. with 33.375 out of 50, Applicant C. with 47.5 out of 50, and Applicant D. with 43.5 out of 50. The average was determined for each applicant without Commissioner Stone's scores, and the Commission chose to move forward without them.

Commissioner Rogers stated that the Commission could vote on up to three applicants for the program and that the Commission reviewed the applicants' samples.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culver, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, to award Applicant C. for the Creative Laureate Program. A vote was conducted, and the motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to award Applicant D. for the Creative Laureate Program. A vote was conducted, and the motion was carried by a vote of 6:2, with Chair Nolan and Commissioner Stone dissenting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Culver, to award Applicant B. for the Creative Laureate Program. A vote was

conducted, and the motion was carried by a vote of 7:1, with Commissioner Rogers dissenting.

D. Red Wing Pride Festival Support.

Chair Nolan and Commissioner Rogers recused themselves from the discussion and the vote due to a conflict of interest.

Patrick Langbein, RiseUp Partnership Events and Communications Manager, provided a presentation and requested funding support from the Arts and Culture Commission. The main goal for the event is to keep events completely free and family-friendly. RiseUp is requesting support to close the gap between higher sponsorships and a shortfall of about \$1,000 this year.

Commissioner Brown expressed concern about the Commission's budget and the risks posed by funding reductions to the Creative Laureate Program next year. Staff Liaison Hill confirmed that information and stated the Commission has a budget of \$2,500 per year. Commissioner Culver agreed with Commissioner Brown but stated the Commission should contribute something in support of the event.

Commissioner Mendoza stated that the budget is currently restricted and that no grant programs have been secured for this year. An important goal for the Commission and the community is to support local festivals. Mr. Langbein confirmed that grant writers are employed by RiseUp and that assistance could be offered in co-sponsoring grants for the City of Red Wing.

Commissioner Stone recommended that the Commission offer support without any financial obligation.

Staff Liaison Hill asked whether the Commission's future intention is to award two Creative Laureate Program awards per year or one. If one award were approved, the Commission would have remaining budget funds to support other programs or events.

Commissioner Mendoza mentioned she would support the request for the Pride Festival if a solid path for grant opportunities is provided moving forward. Commissioner Brown agreed with Commissioner Stone to support the event without any financial obligation.

Commissioner Culver recommended approving one Creative Laureate Program award each year moving forward and suggested approving a \$250 donation to the Pride Festival, with Commissioner Reigelman also in support.

A motion was made by Commissioner Granlund, seconded by Commissioner Culver, to support the Red Wing Pride Festival with a donation of \$250. A vote was conducted, and the motion was carried by a vote of 4:2:2, with Commissioners Stone and Brown dissenting and Chair Nolan and Commissioner Rogers abstaining from the vote.

E. Sculpture Walk Capstone Event.

Chair Nolan confirmed the event is scheduled on June 17, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. The Commission voted to have a table at the event, and the theme is celebrating art. The event also needs volunteers to host at the table.

Commissioner Brown suggested purchasing t-shirts for the Commission to wear at the events. Commissioner Rogers asked Staff Liaison Hill for a price estimate.

Chair Nolan mentioned creating a committee to make design decisions, and Commissioner Rogers agreed. Commissioner Mendoza requested to join the committee with Commissioners Brown and Granlund.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Culver, to allocate \$250 to purchase t-shirts for current Commission members for events. A vote was conducted, and the motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

Staff Liaison Hill stated that a motion could also be made to cover the cost of event supplies if Red Wing Arts does not cover the full cost. She also requested that a Commission member take the lead on communications with the Red Wing Arts. Chair Nolan volunteered to be the lead.

7. Communication Items

A. Finance Report

Commissioner Mendoza stated that the Commission has allocated \$250 to the Pride Festival and \$250 to purchase t-shirts so far. The Finance Committee could bring forward funding opportunities that the City of Red Wing could apply for.

Commissioner Rogers suggested forming a committee to explore local grant funding opportunities and noted that a variety of funding options are available.

Staff Liaison Hill stated two big disbursements have been submitted to include \$300 for the Red Wing Arts to cover park shelter rentals for the Arts in the Park Summer Series and \$13,150 to Red Wing Arts for services for the Sculpture Walk such as hosting the website, creating the promotional materials, brochures, and coordination, which was largely covered by the SEMAC grant. Staff Liaison Hill confirmed that the remaining balance in the Municipal Arts Fund is

\$29,518.40.

B. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Rogers stated she is working with Margaret Pearce on a proposal for a new public art piece at Colvill Park, with a location to be determined. The proposal, called the Mississippi Dialogues Project, will be brought to the Arts & Cultural Commission Workshop next month.

C. Announcements

Commissioner Culver mentioned that he and Chair Nolan are proud members of the River Arts Resources Foundation. The work includes a resource library available to everyone, and electronic capabilities will be offered soon.

Commissioner Brown stated the 250th celebration hosted by Red Wing Shoes will be held at Levee Park on July 4, 2026.

Commissioner Mendoza thanked the applicants who applied for the Creative Laureate Program. The next steps for the program include assigning a Commissioner to serve as a liaison to the Commission for quarterly check-ins.

8. Adjournment

Chair Nolan adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.