

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mundelein Arts Commission was held on January 19, 2026. Chairperson Spicuzza called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ATTENDANCE

A. Spicuzza took attendance. It indicated as follows:

Commission Attendance

PRESENT: Chairman Spicuzza, Commissioner Woodard, Commissioner Arp

ABSENT: Commissioner Esson, Commissioner Justman, Commissioner Bayoneto, Commissioner Kalmanovsky, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Lyttle

A quorum was not present.

Village Attendance

PRESENT: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner; Erin Swanson, Recording Secretary

Due to the lack of a quorum, no official business could be conducted and no votes were taken.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Conor and Natalie O'Brien, residents, were present. They stated that they are present to observe and have an interest in getting more involved with the community.

Nick Gillenwater, resident, was present. Mr. Gillenwater is a local business owner in Vernon Hills and recently moved to Mundelein. He discussed interest in getting more involved with the community. He shared information about Art-o-mat, an art vending machine using refurbished cigarette machines. His shop is host to a location of one of these machines and Mr. Gillenwater shared information about how to process works.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Approval of the November 17, 2025 Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the meeting on November 17, 2026 will be done at the next meeting scheduled for February 16, 2026.

Budget Review

The budget proposal for the next fiscal year was briefly discussed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Art Plan

No updates.

Lure of the Local

C. Male shared that 2 resident artists have moved out early. As of the date of the meeting, the remaining artist residents are planning to stay for the duration of the agreed upon time. The commission also discussed the need to go through the supplies room and clear items out.

A. Spicuzza shared the Fremont Library had shared their strategic plan. The Library shared demographics, and shared a large need of exhibition space for performing arts.

The commission discussed a future purchase award, and other events that were hosted during the duration of the Lure of the Local event.

Stars on Parade

The artist for the new Stars on Parade statue is taking a little longer than expected to complete the star, but it is still underway. Commission briefly discussed the status of the Star purchased by the High School. There is no new information regarding the status of that star.

Hand Sculpture

The Commission discussed the status of the hand sculpture and when the Village should be processing the payment.

Holiday Theater Production

The Commission discussed the Miracle on 34th Street production. The Kirk Players were pleased with the attendance. There may need to be more chairs ordered for next year to account for the ones needed for the green room. All bills are paid to date.

Scholarships

One of the students that was given a scholarship is not returning for a second semester. The school reached out to return half of the scholarship awarded.

Summer Shakespeare Shorts

The Commission discussed prior locations and expressed interest in supporting the Summer Shakespeare Shorts. A sub-committee may be needed.

Mundelein Grand Prix

Planning for the Grand Prix will begin in late Spring.

S'Murals

Tony Cannoli S'mural is still under process and is anticipated to progress in February or March. The Commission discussed other murals around the Village. C. Woodard volunteered to scout potential S'mural locations.

Set Sail North / Record Fair

The Commission discussed the proposed Set Sail North / Record Fair event. C. Woodard discussed working with the farmer's market for the first year for the record sales. The commission further discussed tentative formats for the first year and the overall budget of the current Set Sail event and how it would be scaled for a Mundelein event.

Art Pantries

C. Woodard will talk to the Tool Library to discuss a collaboration on creating Art Pantries.

Beautification Committee

C. Woodard gave an overview on the Beautification Committee updates. Mundelein is now considered an official Bird City. There will be an upcoming update on community gardens, and Spring into Summer prep will be starting. C. Woodard will be willing to continue being the Beautification Committee liaison, but is open to sharing with another commissioner if there is interest.

OLD BUSINESS

Piano - Keep?

There is a new tenant upstairs at Village Hall. It is an option to move it to the ABC building. A. Spicuzza stated she would prefer to keep it if possible.

Percent for the Arts

There are no new updates.

ArtsLink North Directory

S. Esson was not present. There are no updates.

Winter Tree Lighting Festival

No updates.

NEW BUSINESS AND PROJECT UPDATES

MCC is getting a new director and Mundelein Parks and Recreation will no longer be sponsoring the Arts Festival. Rita Kipp, one of the MCC Board Members is in charge of the Arts Festival. The MCC is in search of an artist volunteer to assist in the planning for the festival.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND UPDATES

There were no further questions, comments, or updates.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM.

erin swanson

Erin Swanson, Recording Secretary