



Minutes
Michigan City Public Art Committee Meeting
Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall Michigan City
April 16, 2026

Call to Order: Matt Kubik

Present in Person: Shannon Eason, Judy Jacobi, Kathy Dennis, Don Przybylinski, Katie Mitschelen, Dale Cooper, John Ryszka, Kenny Smith, Janet Bloch

Absent: Jane Daley

Guests: Bunny Dimke and Erik Gonzales

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the March 19, 2026 meeting were reviewed

Motion

It was moved by Shannon Eason and seconded by Dale Cooper to accept the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report:

The financial report for March was reviewed: The balance in the operating fund was \$20,486.24 and \$1,316.46 in the gifts and donations fund.

Motion

It was moved by Janet Block and seconded by John Ryszka to accept the financial reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

Bunny Dimke requested information regarding the restoration of statues at the city's cemeteries. Shannon Eason will supply grant information. The committee instructed her to reach out the Unity Foundation of LaPorte County. Ms. Dimke asked MAC to consider the cemeteries as locations for public art.

OLD BUSINESS

Fund Raisers & Sponsorship Opportunities (subcommittee: *Cooper, Daley, Eason, Ryszka*)

Matt Kubik gave an update of the Leopold Bench Project. Benches have been constructed. MAC will hold a special meeting on May 7, 2026 to review submissions and select arts. The project schedule is as follows:

Tuesday through Saturday, May 19-23, 2026 – artists pick up benches at Majik Faktory, 1602 Tennessee Street, Michigan City, IN 46360, between 10 am and 5 pm

Tuesday, May 19 through Friday, June 19, 2026 – art production

Friday, June 19 through Sunday, June 21, 2026 – artist to deliver bench to location as directed by MAC

Monday, June 22 through Saturday, October 10, 2026 – exhibition and auction on October 10, 2026

John Ryszka updated the committee on the 5K Art Walk. He is working with Otocast to add badges that visitors can collect. Once they collect a certain amount, they could be entered into a drawing for a free prize. Prizes would be donated to MAC and John will

send out a sponsorship form to the committee. He is also working on using selfies on the app that MAC can use for advertising and engagement. MAC needs to decide on live music or canned music for the event at their next meeting. He is working on hiring a police officer for the event.

Motion

It was moved by Shannon Eason, seconded by Kathy Dennis and voted for unanimously by the committee to commit \$500.00 toward the Otocast badges and selfies program.

Matt Kubik would like to explore a fund-raising event centered around the Grafton mural at the old Elston Jr. High School. We could partner with culinary program for a luncheon and Matt could give a lecture. Other Grafton works could also be exhibited.

Former Mayor Photo Project

Mr. Kubik reported that the remaining Mayor photos and other historic photos will be placed soon. The rails need to be removed and repainted and the project is on his agenda. We need to set a date for the unveiling which needs to be coordinated with the Mayor.

Matt Kubik commented he would like to honor CarolAnn Brown for her years of service with an artwork piece and dedication plaque.

NEW BUSINESS

Banner Art

Mr. Kubik handed out a press release call to artists which will be voted on at the May 21, 2026 meeting.

Tim Adams "Hoopla" Sculpture

The purchase is available for purchase in July 2026.

Motion

It was moved by Don Przybylinski and seconded by Shannon Eason to purchase the sculpture and place it on Ripley and Franklin Streets.

The motion was withdrawn by Mr. Przybylinski, with no objection by Shannon Eason.

Motion

It was moved by Katie Mitschelen, seconded by Kathy Dennis and voted for unanimously by the committee to purchase Tim Adam's "Hoopla" and place it on the northeast corner of Ripley and Franklin Streets.

Motion

It was moved by Janet Bloch and seconded by Shannon Eason to place Liquid Sunshine on the southeast corner of 8th and Franklin Streets.

Sculptfusion 2027-2029

Shannon Eason and Matt Kubik will investigate the 2027 MAC budget to determine if we can afford to hire a manager to manage Sculptfusion

Ongoing Business

Judy Jacobi is updating our media list.

Announcements:

Kenny Smith commented we should target artists of different ethnic groups for public art.

Katie Mitschelen reported the library will be hosting the Marquette High School art exhibition at the library tomorrow at 4 pm.

John Ryszka announced there will be an art exhibition and music at The Rising Phoenix Gallery this Saturday from 1-3 p.m.

Judy Jacobi announced the Sinai Temple will be hosting a mini film festival this Saturday.

John Ryszka announced he has completed the art maintenance app and it is hosted on its own website, separate from the city network.

Adjournment

Motion

It was moved by Katie Mitschelen and seconded by Shannon Eason to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 am. The motion carried unanimously

The next **SPECIAL** meeting will be held in the Mayor's Conference Room at City Hall, 100 E 4th Street, Michigan City, IN 46360 on Thursday May 7, 2026 starting at 10 a.m. CST. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2026 in the Mayor's Conference Room at City Hall at 10 a.m. CST.

Signed


Matt Kubik Chair

Date:

5/21/2025