



STOW ARTS COMMISSION
Tuesday, 1/06/2026, 6:30 p.m.
Boards & Commission Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Leila Griffiths, Chairperson Tasha Bellini
David Smith Janelle Hershberger
Floyd Juszli Megan Honaker
Lindsay King Debi Rich
Jess Fishel McWilliams

ALSO PRESENT: Lydia Gamble, SMFPL
Chris Sheridan, Parks & Rec
Marissa, Sabertooth Art
Eliza, Sabertooth Art

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lisa Toppin Leann Covey
Tom Stephen Mike Daniels

CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE – Leila Griffiths called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and attendance was taken by Brooke Huff.

Mayor Pribonic swore in Leila Griffiths and Megan Honaker for another term on the Arts Commission.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Janelle Hershberger to approve the minutes from the 11/11/2025 meeting; seconded by Megan Honaker. Motion passed.

Celebrate Art –

1. **Warm Up America** – The trees have been up since the holidays in the lobby of City Hall. Need to make time to start taking them down. They discussed Thursday and/or Friday. Need to reach out to Warm Up America and find out where they would like them shipped because they said they have designated places of blanket makers.
2. **Performing Arts** – Will get a more detail update next meeting. Will run similar to the Women in Arts, organizing, timeline and logistics. Megan read a potential call to artists. Hoping to use the community center if possible and Lindsey said they are hoping to incorporate a live reading of the work. This would strictly be for adults. Leann will be submitting timeline to Parks & Rec for review.
3. **Women in Arts** – Still open for submissions from artists. Will reshare on social media as well as email the previous participants. Still need to line up some businesses. Updating the waivers for both businesses and artists to sign.
4. **Sabertooth Art** – Discussing the Arts Master Plan. They passed out pamphlets regarding their business. Their main objective is help those with public art. They are able to handle all facets of public art working hand in hand with communities. Today, they would like to get a feel from the Arts Commission on what their vision may be in regard to public art in the Stow Community. They are helping streamline the process and create a consistent more efficient way to install art in the community. They handed out a questionnaire and asked various questions of the

commission itself. Mayor Pribonic gave a brief history of the Arts Commission. It has been around for about 6 years. Leila said they work towards a direction of what their purpose is hoping with the Arts Master Plan will help with guidelines. She also talked about a few projects they currently work on, Women in Arts, Warm Up America, the collaborate with the library. The commission would like to continually bring more art to the city and champion more artists. The traffic box artists is an annual project. Neighborhood pop ups and the Farmers Market Kid Patch. Art boxes in the parks by a local girl scout. Sidewalk chalk event for Celebrate Stow week. Performing arts is a newer initiative. For the Amp there will be a separate department that will be handling all the performance aspects. Mayor Pribonic discussed how we continue to add programs for all ages. Chris Sheridan discussed the new Parks & Rec bus and the new wrapping on the bus. We are updating all our website and pages and creating a new website for the AMP. Megan said she is shocked that they do community trips and Chris said they are pushing them out more and more on social media. Questions from Sabertooth on how the Arts Commission would like their role defined by Arts Master Plan. Leila said she would like a more defined page for the commission along with an artistry registry. The public would have this accessible to them, and she gave specific examples of how that would work. Lydia from the library said they rely on the Arts commission for their library projects. Currently the commission is advising the city and would like to have their own social media presence. The arts commission has access to an email account to monitor things from artists. All things are currently being posted on the city pages, which are shareable. The city currently uses FB only, and there is newsletter and fun buzz information each month. The traffic boxes have consistently drawn a lot of traction on social media. We share the call to artists with other organizations. Floyd says the plan needs to have its own plan, marketing and the city is part of it. Tasha, said she would like to see more futuristic and technological art. Lindsay said more inclusive possibilities of everything they do. Megan said it gets tricky on whose domain is what between Arts & the Parks & Rec Dept. Would like more clear specifications. Also the discussion regarding AI and how to combat that in the arts world. That would be opportunities where the artists should be doing the work. Jess Fishel said she would like to see artists being compensated for their work as well as a platform. We have artists in neighboring communities that participate in projects. Having the ability to close a call or change calls if it doesn't fall in the scope of the project. Talked about art tours, arts appreciation, sip and paint nights. The master plan will have scope of policies and procedures as well as suggestions or addendums for ideas. Leila would like to see the weekend after Thanksgiving, which is considered artist Sunday. Would love to see a program where artists are demonstrating their skills and items that might be purchased at the event. All the templates are there. Sabertooth is continuing to evaluate all the information and still visiting areas in the city before everything is set, including rezoning and funding opportunities.

SMFPL UPDATE FROM LYDIA: Lydia handed out the February calendar of events coming up at the Library. She discussed a few of the upcoming events. They are still looking for submissions for the Kids Art Exhibit, preferably 2D art.

Other discussions – Leila brought up for everyone to think of ideas for the arts commission to put logos on and pass out at events. The idea is to get the items out to let people know we have a commission. They discussed mascot ideas. David came up with some ideas about a city mascot. Leila said at the last meeting the mayor talked about the city bringing back mascot for events. There was a lot of discussion on this, and some ideas floated around but nothing in concrete. They will continue to work on suggestions and ideas. Some ideas were a fox, goat, turtle, salamander, ducks, heron, chickens. The goal is to identify the city with the mascot so the public would understand the concept. A story behind it. Janelle suggested this should be open to other commissions for suggestions.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 3/3/2025, 6:30 pm, Stow City Hall Boards & Commissions Room Motion by Megan Honaker to adjourn; seconded by Debi Rich Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.



Leila Griffiths, Chairperson



Brooke Huff, Arts Commission Secretary