DRAFT

CRYSTAL LAKE PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026
HELD AT THE CRYSTAL LAKE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Patti Noble at 8:03 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Patti Noble, David Bradburn, Joy Neal, Brynn Jeffries, Kathy Hajdrowski, and Mike Littrell were present.

Community Development Analyst Victoria Wojcik, Assistant City Planner Darrell Moore, and Deputy City Manager Nick Hammonds were present.

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2026 PUBIC ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

Ms. Jeffries made a motion to approve the March 11, 2026 Public Arts Commission meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Bradburn seconded the motion. On roll call, all members voted aye. Motion passed.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION

None.

CRYSTAL LAKE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE, COMMUNITY ART PROJECT

Sustainability Committee members Emilie Hoffman, Any Olson, and Steve Platt visited the Commission meeting to present a community art project. Ms. Wojcik discussed the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, a program approved by Mayor Haleblian that sets out action items for the Sustainability Committee to pursue each year. One of the action items is a community art project which focuses on promoting pollinators.

Ms. Hoffman presented the project and asked for the Arts Commission's feedback. She described the project objectives, which involves local students submitting butterfly art templates for a professional artist to transcribe onto a butterfly art piece to install in local parks and native gardens.

The Sustainability Committee has coordinated with a local artist, Sara Jean Stevens, also in attendance at the meeting. She will take the art submissions and recreate them with a professional touch on the final butterfly art piece. The signs will be posted with a plaque commemorating the student, artist, and any sponsors.

The Arts Commission spoke in favor of proceeding with the project. The Sustainability Committee's goal is to have some of the pieces up in Depot Park for the Johnny Appleseed Festival. The Commission and Committee agreed to continue the discussion of the project over the summer, focusing on a smaller start where an artist does a live painting of four butterfly art pieces at the Johnny Appleseed Festival.

Ms. Wojcik stated that the Committee will work on a plan for up to 10 butterfly art pieces to place at Depot Park, Three Oaks, McCormick Park, and other native gardens for an unveiling on Earth Day in April 2027.

WATER'S EDGE ART PARK MURALS – STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Moore stated that the art is up and the park dedication is scheduled for May 14th. Ms. Hajdrowski stated that the art looks very colorful and vibrant. Ms. Noble stated that she will be speaking at the event.

EXCHANGE DRIVE ROUNDABOUT ART – STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Moore introduced the roundabout art sculpture for discussion. The Commission discussed the visit to the artist's studio for the bronze pour. Ms. Noble asked if there will be an unveiling event. The Commission agreed to approach this subject once the art is nearing installation.

DOWNTOWN BENCH PROJECT – ROUND 2

Mr. Moore stated that he contacted Jeff Brown for pricing for this year. He stated the cost is now $600 per bench. Ms. Hajdrowski asked where the new benches will be going. Mr. Moore stated that there are additional spaces that were not filled from last year. Mr. Littrell asked how the benches are holding up. Ms. Jeffries stated that they are looking good. Ms. Neal asked if the benches stayed out all winter. Mr. Moore stated that the benches were left in place over the winter.

Ms. Jeffries agreed to proceed with a call to artists. Ms. Noble motioned to approve proceeding with the program. Upon voice vote, all members voted aye.

CRYSTAL LAKE CAR SHOW

Mr. Littrell asked if the Commission would like to have a booth at the event this Sunday, May 17th. Setup starts at 7:30 and the event runs from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He stated that proceeds from the event go to the Crystal Lake Food Pantry. There are 30 sponsors this year.

Mr. Bradburn stated that it may be too short notice to get a schedule together. Ms. Neal agreed. Ms. Noble suggested that the Commissioners attend the event to enjoy the show and communicate with event attendees about the Arts Commission.

MOSAIC MURAL FUNDRAISER

Mr. Moore asked if the Commission would like to prioritize this event for next year. Ms. Neal stated that the Commission can continue this discussion to the next meeting. The Commission agreed with this plan.

DOWNTOWN CRYSTAL LAKE ART-FOCUSED EVENT

Ms. Neal stated that the Downtown Association has created a third Thursday event Downtown in June, July, and August. She stated that six to 12 artists are coming to share their work. There will be live music as well. Ms. Neal stated that the August event will have live music only, since attendance may be lower as the kids are back in school by that time.

LAKESIDE FESTIVAL

Ms. Noble stated that the Lakeside fest has a booth for the Arts Commission. Ms. Wojcik stated that the Sustainability Committee may be interested in filling open slots at the booth. The Commission discussed rock painting and promotional materials to display this year.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Ms. Jeffries asked if the Commission should meet every month. The Commission agreed that meeting in June would be beneficial.

The Commission discussed the upcoming PRIDE event on June 7th from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Commission agreed to schedule time to have a booth at the event. Mr. Moore stated that he would send a notice to the group to schedule booth attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Hajdrowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Jeffries seconded the motion. On voice vote, all members voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 a.m.