



Traverse City Arts Commission Regular Meeting

October 18, 2023

3:30 pm

2nd Floor Committee Room, Governmental Center
400 Boardman Avenue
Traverse City, Michigan 49684

The City of Traverse City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in, its programs or activities. Steve Brock, Interim Assistant City Manager, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan 49684, phone 231-922-4440, TDD/TTY 231-922-4412, VRS 231-421-7008, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in Section 35.107 of the Department of Justice regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the ADA Coordinator.

If you are planning to attend and you have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting and/or if you have any concerns, please immediately notify the ADA Coordinator.

The City of Traverse City is committed to a dialog that is constructive, respectful and civil. We ask that all individuals interacting verbally or in writing with the Commission honor these values.

Traverse City Arts Commission:
c/o Harry Burkholder
(231) 922-2050
Email: harry@downtowntc.com
Web: www.downtowntc.com
303 E State St. STE C
Traverse City, MI 49686

Welcome to the Traverse City Arts Commission meeting!

Agenda

	Page
1. CALL TO ORDER, ATTENDANCE, ANNOUCEMENTS	
<hr/>	
2. PUBLIC COMMENT	
<hr/>	
3. CONSENT CALENDAR	
A. Consideration of Approving the August 16, 2023 Arts Commission Meeting Minutes (approval recommended)	5 - 7
August 16, 2023 TC Arts Commission Draft Meeting Minutes (PDF)	
B. Consideration of Approving the August and September Arts Commission Financials (approval recommended)	9 - 11
TC Arts Commission August 2023 Financial Report (PDF)	
TC Arts Commission September Financials September Report (PDF)	
<hr/>	
4. OLD BUSINESS	
A. Old Business	13 - 18
Old Business Memo (Burkholder) PDF	
Arts Commission 5-year Prioritization Worksheet - PDF	
TCAC Project Planning Worksheet - PDF	
<hr/>	
5. NEW BUSINESS	
A. New Business	19 - 26
New Business Memo (Burkholder) - PDF	
Paint It Forward Application - PDF	
TC Bay Gulls Proposal - PDF	
<hr/>	
6. PUBLIC COMMENT	
A. General	
B. Commissioners	
<hr/>	
7. ADJOURNMENT	



CITY COMMISSION

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

2022-2023



HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Increase opportunities for more diverse housing through public and private options.



ACCESS & MOBILITY

Invest in multi-modal mobility strategies and existing and future infrastructure so that individuals of all ages, abilities and income have a network of complete, barrier free, safe, year round access to our community's amenities and basic needs.



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH EACH OTHER AND NATURE

Invest in facilities and amenities in order to create vibrant City spaces that connect all people to nature and to each other.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City will foster economic development by adopting a growth mentality and by conserving and maintaining natural resources. It will work with partners to invest in and maintain amenities that support a wide variety of industries, build the workforce, and attract well-paying jobs with the region's future in mind.



WATER SYSTEMS

Proactively and consistently maintain, conserve, and manage water and water systems to reduce harm to the systems themselves as well as public health and safety.



CLIMATE CHANGE

Address climate within all of our City priorities, goals, policies, and actions.



**Minutes of the
Arts Commission for the City of Traverse City
Regular Meeting
August 16, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Arts Commission of the City of Traverse City was called to order at the Commission Chambers, Governmental Center, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan, at 3:30 p.m.

The following Commissioners were in attendance: Commissioners Early, Stanley, Koebert, Nance, Niemi and Amundsen

The following Commissioners were absent: Commissioner Amundsen

Chairperson Amundsen presided at the meeting.

(a) **CALL TO ORDER, ATTENDANCE, ANNOUCEMENTS**

(b) **PUBLIC COMMENT**

(1)

Public comment provided by Allen Neuton

(c) **CONSENT CALENDAR**

(1) Consideration of Approving the July 19, 2023 Arts Commission Meeting Minutes (approval recommended)

(2) Consideration of Approving the July Arts Commission Financials (approval recommended)

Motion to approve the consent calendar

Moved by Steve Nance, Seconded by Mi Stanley

Yes: Chelsie Niemi, Roger Amundsen, Mi Stanley, Caitlin Early, Steve Nance, and Linda Koebert

Absent: Joshua Hoisington

CARRIED. 6-0-1 on a recorded vote

(d) **OLD BUSINESS**

(1) New Business Memo

Mr. Burkholder provided an update on the Paint-It-Forward Grant Program and the Bryant Park Mural Project.

Commissioners had a robust discussion on regarding the North Boardman Creative District, the cairns art proposal from Dr. Graetz and a potential policy on unsolicited/donated art.

That the Arts Commission develop a policy regarding unsolicited and/or donated art or gift using the Project Planning and Feasibility Exploration Worksheet Template as the basis for the new policy, and furthermore that the Arts Commission not consider any unsolicited and/or donated art or gift until such policy is adopted by the Arts Commission

Moved by Mi Stanley, Seconded by Caitlin Early

Yes: Chelsie Niemi, Roger Amundsen, Mi Stanley, Caitlin Early, Steve Nance, and Linda Koebert

Absent: Joshua Hoisington

CARRIED. 6-0-1 on a recorded vote

(2) Old Business Memo

Commissioners discussed the draft 5-year prioritization sheet and discussed possible additions and project movement (by year). Commissioners agreed to continue to review and make suggestions for the draft prioritization sheet for additional discussion at the September Meeting.

Nick Viox and UpNorth Pride provided discussed a collaboration opportunity and the Arts Commission made the following motion:

That the Arts Commission supports a collaboration with UpNorthPride regarding the UpNorth Pride Sign Making Party and Visibility Rally, and furthermore that the Arts Commission draft an MOU with UpNorthPride that outlines the commitment and expectations of the Arts Commission and UpNorthPride in regards to the Sign Making Party and Visibility Rally.

Moved by Roger Amundsen, Seconded by Steve Nance

Yes: Chelsie Niemi, Roger Amundsen, Mi Stanley, Caitlin Early, Steve Nance, and Linda Koebert

Absent: Joshua Hoisington

CARRIED. 6-0-1 on a recorded vote

(e) **NEW BUSINESS**

(1)

Nick Viox and UpNorth Pride presented and discussed a potential partnership.

(f) **PUBLIC COMMENT**

(1) General

Mr. Burkholder noted the City of Petoskey recently established an Arts Commission similar to the Traverse City Arts Commission.

(2) Commissioners

Commissioner Early noted a desire to include fundraising on the Agenda for the September meeting.

(g) **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson, Roger Amundsen

Draft

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR TRAVERSE CITY
 PERIOD ENDING 08/31/2023

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITY FOR					
		2023-24YTD BALANCE	MONTH ENCUMBERED	ENCUMBERED	%	BDGT	
		ENDED BUDGET	08/31/2023	08/31/23	EAR-TO-DATE	BALANCE	USED
Fund 282 - PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION FUND							
Revenues							
Dept 000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL							
282-000-674.000	CONTRIBUTIONS-PUBLIC SOUR	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.00
282-000-695.000	TRANSFERS IN	30,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	0.00
Total Dept 000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL		45,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,000.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES		45,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,000.00	0.00
Expenditures							
Dept 282 - PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION							
282-282-801.000	PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRAC'	33,000.00	697.64	97.64	9,081.28	23,221.08	29.63
282-282-930.000	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	2,000.00	147.00	0.00	0.00	1,853.00	7.35
Total Dept 282 - PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION		35,000.00	844.64	97.64	9,081.28	25,074.08	28.36
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		35,000.00	844.64	97.64	9,081.28	25,074.08	28.36
Fund 282 - PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION FUND:							
TOTAL REVENUES		45,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,000.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		35,000.00	844.64	97.64	9,081.28	25,074.08	28.36
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		10,000.00	(844.64)	(97.64)	(9,081.28)	19,925.92	99.26

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2023-24YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR			% BDGT USED
		UNDEDED BUDGET	09/30/2023	MONTH 09/30/23	ENCUMBERED YEAR-TO-DATE	ENCUMBERED BALANCE	
Fund 282 - PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION FUND							
Revenues							
Dept 000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL							
282-000-674.000	CONTRIBUTIONS-PUBLIC SOUR	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.00
282-000-695.000	TRANSFERS IN	30,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	0.00
Total Dept 000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL		45,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,000.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES		45,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,000.00	0.00
Expenditures							
Dept 282 - PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION							
282-282-801.000	PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRAC'	33,000.00	697.64	0.00	9,081.28	23,221.08	29.63
282-282-930.000	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	2,000.00	147.00	0.00	0.00	1,853.00	7.35
Total Dept 282 - PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION		35,000.00	844.64	0.00	9,081.28	25,074.08	28.36
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		35,000.00	844.64	0.00	9,081.28	25,074.08	28.36
Fund 282 - PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION FUND:							
TOTAL REVENUES		45,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,000.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		35,000.00	844.64	0.00	9,081.28	25,074.08	28.36
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		10,000.00	(844.64)	0.00	(9,081.28)	19,925.92	99.26

To: Traverse City Arts Commission
From: Harry Burkholder, DDA COO
Memo Date: October 13, 2023
Subject: Old Business

Bryant Park Mural

City Parks and Recreation power-washed the bathroom building on August 24th. Using Steve Nance’s lead, I secured an estimate from his recommended contractor to apply the primer to the bathroom building. His estimate totaled \$1,800 – significantly more expensive than we anticipated and budgeted.

Rather than working through the city’s administrative system for approval of additional funds, we started conversations with the YouthWork program to apply the primer. The Youthwork Program is run by Child and Family Services of Northwest Michigan and provides young people with hand-on experience in completing conservation and skilled trade projects for nonprofit organizations and government agencies. The DDA has an existing contract with YouthWorks for summer maintenance (e.g., watering planters, washing sidewalks, graffiti removal, etc.) throughout downtown. Despite weather difficulties, Youthworks was able to apply the primer in late September.

Concurrently, we finally secured the formal agreement between the City and Ms. Corden. Her work could not begin until a contract was finalized. Despite continued weather difficulties, Ms. Corden has finished the two “ends” of the restroom building. As previously noted, she expressed concerns that time and weather constraints might not allow her to finish the mural (i.e., its darker earlier in the day, paint does not adhere to brick in cool weather). I am working on securing the primer for the finished mural sections as well as support for its application.



UpNorth Pride

I am hoping Arts Commissioners who participated in the UpNorth Pride events and activities can provide an update on how it went.

Perry Hannah Statue

I have been on contact with different member of the Tribe to begin the process of interpretation of our proposed sign near the Perry Hannah statue.

Five-Year Rolling List of Capital Improvement Projects

I have included the working “five-year rolling list of capital improvement projects” that we discussed at our last meeting (Commissioner Niemi put together for our July meeting). I’d like to continue our discussion on the proposed projects and timeline. At our last meeting, we discussed the addition of several items including:

- Moving the downtown mural festival into 2025
- Adding the TAR glow stones (to pavement) along the TART extension
- Adding art for the FishPass project to 2025
- Adding a mural(s) for the GTACS building, the waste-water treatment plant and the Elevate (climbing wall) into 2025 and 2026
- Adding the temporary installations

Proposed
Arts Commission 5-Year Prioritization

FY 2024

- Summer West Front St. Banners
- Fall Mural Festival Union St. & Downtown Area
- Fall Potential Sculpture Gift on 8th/NoBo Creative District
- Winter Selection Rotating Art Exhibit Selection
- Small Park Project
- Spring/Summer Pilot Traffic Calming/Street Painting Project in 8th/NoBo Creative District
- Spring/Summer Bike Racks Along 8th/NoBo Creative District

FY 2025

- Fall Mural Festival 8th/NoBo Creative District
- TART/Bayfront Trail Project Glowing Asphalt
- Small Park Project
- Additional 8th/NoBo Creative District Sculpture

FY 2026

- Fall Mural Festival Location TBD (Old State Hospital, NMC & East Front St., etc.)
- Additional 8th/NoBo Creative District Sculpture
- Small Park Project
- Permanent Traffic Calming/Street Painting Project in 8th/NoBo Creative District
- Replace Banners
- Rotating Art Exhibit Selection
- TART/Bayfront Trail Project Bike Clinch Park

FY 2027

- Fall Mural Festival Location TBD (Old State Hospital, NMC & East Front St., etc.)
- Small Park Project
- TART/Bayfront Trail Project Open Space Installation

FY 2028

- Fall Mural Festival Location TBD (Old State Hospital, NMC & East Front St., etc.)
- Small Park Project
- Replace Banners
- Rotating Art Exhibit Selection
- TART/Bayfront Trail Project Racks/Other Functional Sculptural Element

Project Recommendations

- One small park project per year in coordination with Parks & Rec
- Having a regular call for the rotating art exhibit so we can pick rotating exhibits bi-annually (proposals reviewed twice a year making decisions on a yearly or multi-year basis based on proposals)
- Outlining our 5 year Mural Project Locations
- Replacing the banners or doing other banner locations every other year with a regular call similar to rotating art exhibit
- Breaking down 8th/NoBo Creative District and TART/Bayfront Trail Projects and slotting them into each FY based on construction timelines
- Less Projects for FY 27 with consideration of Large Open Space Project
- Breaking down objectives for long-term projects to consider staff time/capacity/approval processes, etc.

Traverse City Arts Commission

Project Planning and Feasibility Exploration Worksheet Template *Intended For TCAC Staff Use*

The purpose of this worksheet is to help guide, support, and empower project planning and partnerships undertaken by the Traverse City Arts Commission. The worksheet is intended to be used by Arts Commission staff, commissioners, and/or community members to plan for new projects in alignment with the Commission's strategic goals and capacity. Project decisions will be made by the Arts Commission in alignment with the roles and processes outlined in the Traverse City Arts Commission's Governance Design. The Arts Commission is under no obligation to move forward with a proposed project. Projects that are not supported by the community, and/or projects where necessary resources are not secured or available to support the desired outcomes and impacts may be considered unsuitable for Arts Commission action. The Arts Commission recognizes and understands that people in the community are always welcome to take action to support public art outside of the City Arts Commission public art process, too.

For Staff Completion

Is the proposed public art project, program, or effort:

- Highly visible and/or likely to be seen or impact a relatively high number of people?
- In a place in the City that is currently underserved by public art? (Use Arts Commission reference map to see current public art locations.)
- Integrated with public infrastructure (e.g., bridge, street, trail, park, public building)?
- Using diverse materials and/or formats?
- Featuring a diverse artist(s)?
- Helping to advance a relationship with a public art partner?

Project Name:
Project Location and Description:
Project Beneficiaries/Who is Impacted Most by Project:
Project Duration (Length of Time City Commitment is Required):

Project Leader:

Other Team Members and their Roles, Qualifications/Experience, and Capacity:

Outcomes and Impacts to City and Community (Short and Long-term):

Measurements of Success:

Work Plan Summary

Activities and Tasks	Person(s) Responsible	Timeline/Deadline

Budget

Budget Items	Estimated Costs	Anticipated Funding Sources

Fiduciary Identified (if not the Traverse City Arts Commission):

Fiduciary Role Authorized By (Partner Name and Signature):

Date:

To: Traverse City Arts Commission
From: Harry Burkholder, DDA COO
Memo Date: October 13, 2023
Subject: New Business

Policy on Unsolicited Donations & Gifts

At our last meeting, we discussed the need to develop a policy regarding unsolicited and/or donated art or gifts using the Project Planning and Feasibility Exploration Worksheet Template as the basis for the new policy, and furthermore that the Arts Commission not consider any unsolicited and/or donated art or gift until such policy is adopted by the Arts Commission.

I will be working with the City Attorney to develop an internal policy and hope to have something for your review in November.

Paint-it-Forward Grant Program

Over the last two months, I received two inquiries regarding the grant and one application (see attached). I am suggesting that the Arts Commission discuss the Paint It Forward application at our meeting. I have attached the proposal score sheet to help in the evaluation.

Art Inquiry/Submission

I received a proposal from artist David Kirby about a large Pop Art sculpture for Downtown, titled "TC Bay Gulls" (see attached). In my conversations with Mr. Kirby, I noted that the Arts Commission is working on a donation/gift policy and that the Arts Commission would need time to properly review and discuss his proposal – and furthermore, no decision would be reached at our meeting. Mr. Kirby indicated he would be at our meeting to answer any questions that Art Commissioners might have.



**TRAVERSE CITY ARTS COMMISSION "PAINT IT FORWARD" GRANT APPLICATION FORM
2023**

Please share your concise responses to the questions below. Responses should be no more than three single-spaced pages. If available, you may attach and include photographs or maps to support your application. The application materials do not count toward the three-page limit. Please email your completed application in a Microsoft Word or PDF format to harry@downtowntc.com and include "2023 Grant Application" in the subject line.

Name of Entity Applying for Funds Arts for All of Northern Michigan

Type of Entity (non-profit) 501(c)(3)

Name of Contact/Grant Administrator Val McCarthy

Title Executive Director Phone 231-947-1278

Email val@artsforallnmi.org Website artsforallnmi.org

Name of Project Colorful Connections: Celebrating Community Through Art

Total Project Cost \$3,000

Amount Requested from the Arts Commission \$2,000

Total Project Match (25%) 750.00

1. Summarize your project. What problem are you trying to solve with your project? What are your goals? What is the grant paying for? **Please refer to seperate sheets.**
2. What activities are you planning?
3. What is the location of your project?
4. Who are you serving and who are the beneficiaries of your project?
5. Who are the projects leaders and partners? Describe their roles and responsibilities.
6. List the costs and sources of revenue (including your 25% match) for your project.
7. Describe how your project advances public art in the community?
8. Describe how your project aligns with the existing goals and vision of the Arts Commission?

Q: Summarize your project. What problem are you trying to solve with your project? What are your goals? What is the grant paying for?

A: The proposed project, titled "Colorful Connections: Celebrating Community Through Art," aims to create a vibrant and interactive community art mural in Traverse City. The project seeks to address the lack of aesthetically appealing public spaces and the need for a unifying symbol that celebrates the city's diverse culture and history.

Problem Addressed:

Traverse City currently lacks visually captivating public spaces that foster a strong sense of community identity and connection. Additionally, there is a need for an inclusive and representative art piece that celebrates the rich diversity and historical significance of the city.

Goals:

1. **Enhance Public Spaces:** The project intends to transform a plain and underutilized public space within Traverse City into an inspiring and visually appealing area that encourages community engagement and pride in the arts.
2. **Celebrate Diversity and History:** The mural will serve as a representation of Traverse City's diverse cultural heritage and historical narratives, fostering inclusivity and a sense of belonging among residents.
3. **Sustainability:** To ensure the longevity of the artwork, the project will allocate funds for proper maintenance and preservation.

Grant Allocation:

The grant will cover the following expenses: 1. **Artist Honorarium and Fees:** Compensation for the selected artist(s) for their creative work and community engagement efforts. 2. **Art Supplies and Equipment:** Funding to procure mural materials, paint, brushes, scaffolding, etc. 3. **Unveiling Event:** Expenses related to the public unveiling ceremony, including refreshments and event logistics. 4. **Maintenance Fund:** Allocation to establish a maintenance fund to ensure the mural's long-term preservation and upkeep.

Q: What activities are you planning?

A: **Mural Creation:** The primary activity of the project will be the creation of the mural itself. Collaborating with community participants, the selected artist(s) will execute the mural design in the designated public space. Residents will have the opportunity to engage in the painting process under the guidance of the artist(s), creating a collective effort and fostering a strong sense of community pride.

Q: Where is the location of the project?

A: The exact location will be determined in consultation with the Traverse City Arts Commission and relevant city officials to ensure that the chosen site aligns with the project's objectives and community engagement goals.

Q: Who are you serving and who are the beneficiaries of your project?

A: The community can actively participate in the mural creation process through community workshops and artist-led sessions. By engaging residents in the design and painting of the mural, the project fosters a sense of ownership and pride in the public artwork that will become a symbol of their shared cultural heritage and history.

Q: Who are the projects leaders and partners? Describe their roles and responsibilities.

A: 1.)The Traverse City Arts Commission will be the main governing body overseeing the project's execution. Role: Approving the project proposal and budget and assisting in finding a location. 2.) The selected artist(s) or artist team will design and execute the mural. Creating a comprehensive design for the mural, incorporating the community's input and reflecting the city's diverse culture and history.

Q: List the costs and sources of revenue.

A: Art Supplies and Equipment: The expenses for purchasing high-quality mural materials, paint, brushes, scaffolding, and any other necessary equipment for the mural creation. Unveiling Event: The costs associated with organizing the public unveiling event, including event logistics, refreshments, and promotional materials. Maintenance Fund: Allocating funds to establish a maintenance fund to ensure the mural's long-term preservation and upkeep. Sources of revenue - In-Kind Contributions: Securing in-kind contributions, such as materials or services, from businesses or individuals willing to support the project without direct monetary donations.

Q: Describe how your project advances public art in the community?

A: This proposal significantly advances public art in the community of Traverse City by creating a transformative and inclusive public art mural that enriches the cultural and aesthetic landscape of the city. The project's approach and outcomes demonstrate several key ways in which it advances public art: 1. Engaging the Community: The project actively involves the local community in creating. Through community workshops and artist-led sessions, residents, schools, and community organizations become integral to the artistic vision. This engagement fosters a strong sense of ownership and connection to the artwork, encouraging a deeper appreciation for public art and its role in enriching the community's identity. 2. Celebrating Diversity and History: The mural design reflects the diverse cultural heritage and historical narratives of Traverse City. By incorporating elements representing various cultures and traditions, the project celebrates the community's multiculturalism, fostering inclusivity and promoting pride among all residents. 3. Creating a Landmark: The mural, once completed, will become a prominent landmark within the city. Public art can attract attention, encourage dialogue, and serve as a gathering point for residents and visitors. The mural's visibility will encourage people to interact with the artwork and appreciate the value of public art as an essential aspect of city life. 4. Promoting Artists and Creatives: The project supports and uplifts the local artistic community by collaborating with local artists and providing them with a platform to showcase their talent. This recognition reinforces public art's importance in supporting and promoting artists' contributions to the city's cultural landscape.

5. Inspiring Future Projects: The success of "Colorful Connections" sets a precedent for future public art projects in Traverse City. By demonstrating the positive impact of community engagement and cultural representation, the project inspires future endeavors that enhance public spaces and enrich the lives of residents through art.

Q: Describe how your project aligns with the existing goals and vision of the Arts Commission?

A: The "Colorful Connections: Celebrating Community Through Art" project fully aligns with the existing goals and vision of the Traverse City Arts Commission. By creating an inclusive, representative, and visually captivating public art mural that celebrates the city's cultural heritage and community identity, the project exemplifies the commission's commitment to enriching the cultural and aesthetic quality of life in Traverse City through accessible and engaging public art installations.

TC Bay Gulls !!

by David Kirby

October 2023



Project Overview: The Artist proposes installing a large Pop Art sculpture of two sea gulls on a business rooftop in downtown Traverse City, overlooking the people and activities of West Front Street. Seagulls because they so thoroughly populate our local bayfront and because they are goofy, and yet, inscrutable. As examples of classic Pop Art they will be oversized, glossy and bright. They will be thought provoking and quite a bit funny. The intent is to further enliven the downtown area, as well as add to the artistic stature of our community.

Artist's Bio: My name is David Kirby and I am a local retired physics teacher and a busy artist. My most public and enduring piece of art is certainly the Traverse Bay Community Solar System. For that \$30,000 project, I designed and installed nine planets and the sun along the TART recreational trail in 2002. I have lovingly maintained them for the last 20 years. I believe the Solar System demonstrates that I have the artistic vision, the work ethic and the community building skills necessary to carry the TC Bay Gulls to a successful and beautiful conclusion.

More Details: The TC Bay Gulls project is meant to bring to mind the Large Blue Bear in Denver, the Badminton Birdies of Kansas City or the Reflecting Bean in Chicago. Large, high-quality art in public spaces. Our Front Street is rather narrow yet intimate. Placing the Bay Gulls on a roof top is good use of vertical space and also flips the traditional geometry of viewing art at eye level into viewing art vertically. The gulls will be looking down onto the downtown activities just as passersby are looking up at them. One of the birds will be wearing an oversized pair of mirrored sunglasses (like many of the people passing by) and these will reflect surrounding streets scenes back to the viewer.





The Gulls themselves will be perhaps 8 feet tall, 4 feet wide and 10 feet long. The giant sunglasses, perhaps, 6 feet wide. The project will be mounted in such a way that does not damage roof top weather seals. The Gulls will be mounted on wheeled bases so they can be moved about for maintenance purposes. The Gulls will be adaptable. They will accommodate a changing array of accessories. Mirrored sunglasses can be swapped out for 3D glasses in reference to the showings at the State Theater, for example. The cherry tree bough can be

swapped out, say, for a New Year's noisemaker. Rather like the Perry Hannah statue and its seasonal attire.

For strength and stability, an interior infrastructure will be built of steel and wood. This framework will be encased in really large blocks of Styrofoam which will then be carved down into the Bay Gull shape. The final form will be fiber glassed and gel coated to provide a beautifully smooth and colorful exterior with excellent long-term sun and weather protection.