

**Traverse City Arts Commission  
\*Special Meeting\***



**1:30 PM**

**Tuesday, September 13, 2016**

**Located in: The Second Floor Committee Room**

**Governmental Center**

**Traverse City, MI 49684**

**Posted: Friday, September 9, 2016**

If you are planning to attend the meeting and you have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting, please notify the City Clerk, immediately.

The City of Traverse City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Penny Hill, Assistant City Manager, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan, 49684, 922-4440, TDD 922-4412, 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.

Traverse City Arts Commission:  
c/o Katie Zeits, Deputy City Clerk  
(231) 922-4480  
Email: [tcclerk@traversecitymi.gov](mailto:tcclerk@traversecitymi.gov)  
Web: [www.traversecitymi.gov](http://www.traversecitymi.gov)  
400 Boardman Avenue  
Traverse City, MI 49684

**AGENDA**

1. Call to order, attendance, announcements.
2. Consideration of a potential art donation opportunity.
3. Public Comment.



The City of Traverse City

# Communication to the Arts Commission

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FOR THE ARTS COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

FROM: KATIE ZEITS, DEPUTY CITY CLERK *Katie Zeits*

SUBJECT: PUBLIC ART DONATION OPPORTUNITY – DAVID BARR  
ESTATE

Attached you will find a memo from Chairperson Mary Bevans-Gillett regarding an opportunity to obtain a piece or pieces of art by David Barr for placement in the City. As mentioned by Ms. Bevans-Gillett, the timing of this opportunity is sensitive and would require action at the meeting if the Commission would like to move forward.

If the Commission is in favor of pursuing a piece of art from the David Barr Estate, the following motion would be appropriate:

**that the Arts Commission supports efforts to secure public art from the David Barr Estate and recommends to the Art Selection Panel the following pieces be prioritized for perusing \_\_\_\_\_ and the following location(s) \_\_\_\_\_**  
\_\_\_\_\_.

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Traverse City Arts Commission  
FROM: Mary Bevans Gillett, Chair   
RE: Public Art Donation Opportunity – David Barr Estate  
DATE: September 12, 2016

The Traverse City Arts Commission has an opportunity that is time sensitive (9/29 deadline) to benefit from a David Barr sculpture as a piece of public art. The purpose of the commission's 9/13 special meeting is to consider this opportunity and determine whether to proceed.

### BACKGROUND & OPPORTUNITY

David Barr was an internationally known sculptor and founder/artistic director of the Michigan Legacy Art Park. He passed away in August 2015.

<http://www.crainsdetroit.com/article/20150831/NEWS/150839982/david-barr-artist-behind-hart-plaza-arch-michigan-legacy-art-park>

The Estate of David Barr estate is offering to donate several of his sculptures to the Dennon Museum Center, Michigan Legacy Art Park and the City of Novi. The Traverse City Arts Commission was contacted by the Dennon Museum Center to see if it was interested in obtaining one of the works for public art in the city. There are seven possible pieces that are available, photos follow this memo.

Deadline to submit requests is absolutely no later than September 29. The Barr Estate's timeline is not negotiable. Wish lists must be submitted by September 29, 2016 by the Dennon Museum Center, Michigan Legacy Art Park & the City of Novi or the respective offers are forfeited. Timeline on the actual movement of the works to region is not determined, but anticipated prior to year's end.

Per the Barr estate's requirements, the artwork must be gifted to the Dennon Museum Center (or MLAP or City of Novi). NMC/Dennon, would, in turn, place the artwork on long term loan to the City of Traverse City. There is also the ability for NMC to transfer ownership to the City in the future.

### FUNDING REQUIREMENTS & RELATED CONSIDERATIONS

Anticipated value of each piece if purchased or commissioned would be in the \$20,000 to \$25,000 range. These are not terribly large pieces, assuming in the 8'-10' range, which will be confirmed.

Arts Commission funding would be required for:

- Transportation from Novi to Traverse City;
- A cement pad or cement column where the sculpture at the installation site;
- A forklift to move it from the flatbed to the cement pad.

Required budget is variable due to sculpture size and ability to cost share with Dennon and MLAP.

- If the commission undertook costs for its piece alone, budget would be \$5,000-\$7,000.
- However, since MLAP and Dennon will also be receiving sculptures, cost sharing is available for combined transportation (and, possibly, timeshare the forklift?). This would significantly reduce Arts Commission cost, by at least a third or more.

Future funding considerations are minimal. Long term expenses are limited to regular maintenance which requires paint every 5-7 years.

Location is to be determined by the Arts Commission and City of Traverse City. We are able to move forward with the request prior to September 29, then determine final site upon confirmation. We also have the ability to request more than one piece, with assumption of additional fees as outlined above.

#### BENEFITS & ADDED VALUE

This opportunity offers a number of benefits to the Arts Commission and the City of Traverse City:

- Allows another substantial piece of public art to be added in the City within a short time frame
- Limited investment for a work with significant value
- David Barr is an internationally renowned artist with strong northern Michigan ties
- Collaboration with the Dennon Museum Center & Michigan Legacy Art Park
- Ability to move sculpture, if needed.
- Arts Commission funding is currently available to guarantee expenses are covered. However, this is a project where fundraising can be utilized to fund all or a significant portion of expenses.

#### PROCESS & POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS

In order to follow City Commission requirements, master plan guidelines as well as the Barr Estate deadline, we propose the following timeline and considerations:

- **Special Meeting of the Traverse City Arts Commission, 9/13, 1:30pm:** Consideration to move forward with request. Identify 3-5 possible locations for further study. Edit sculpture options to less than 7, if desired. If consideration is approved, following timeline continues.
- **Art Selection Committee Meeting, 9/19:** The Art Selection Committee is already scheduled to meet on 9/19 to select the artist for the Bryan Crough Memorial. We propose adding on consideration of the seven available pieces (or those put forth by the Arts Commission) for prioritized recommendations of top three choices.
- **City Commission Meeting, 9/19, 7pm:** Present our request to the City Commission that the Arts Commission work with the Dennon Museum Center to request a David Barr sculpture for the purpose of public art within the City of Traverse City. Note that the Arts Commission will be working with City Staff, stakeholders and, if applicable, Parks & Recs, to confirm location(s), logistics and related matters, and will return to the City Commission with final details when art donation has been approved and guaranteed by the Barr Estate.
- **Request to Dennon Museum Center for the David Barr Estate, 9/20.** If approved to move forward by the City Commission on 9/19, a formal request will be made to the Dennon Museum Center for submission to the Barr Estate.

Thank you for your consideration of this unique opportunity. I look forward to our discussion.



STRUCTURIST SCULPTURE #6



SOURCE I



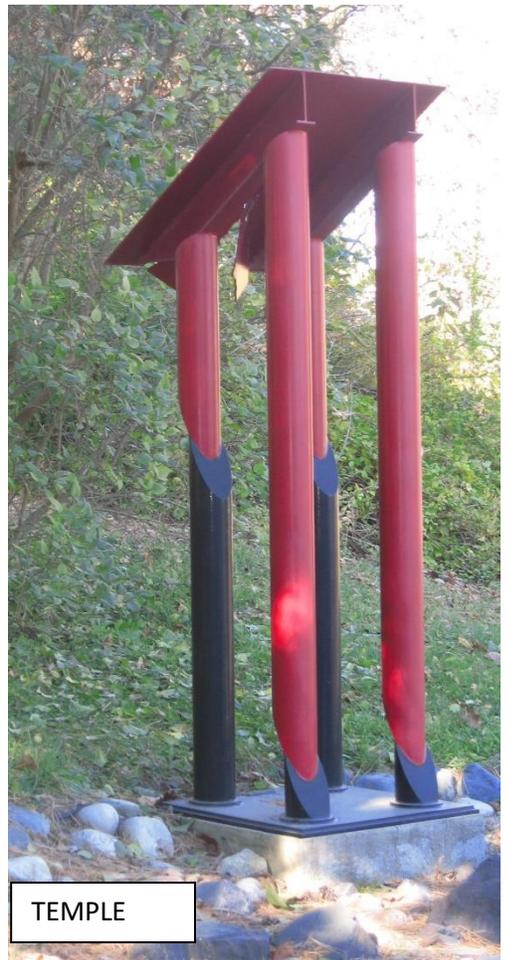
STRUCTURIST SCULPTURE #10



ROLLOVER



EQUATION



TEMPLE



KNOSSUS