

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Justin Padgett, Cannon Falls Library Director

SUBJECT: Cannon Arts Board Grant Support Letter

Date: March 11, 2015

BACKGROUND: (Information composed and written by Marci French, Cannon Arts Board President)

Cannon Arts Board, in collaboration with The Cannon Falls Library and ArtOrg, propose to site a series of sculptures, on a rotating basis, in front of the Library. A Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant will be applied for, through Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council (SEMAC), with an application deadline of April 1st. Contributions and donations made by Cannon Arts Board, ArtOrg, and others will insure complete funding of the project, should the grant be awarded.

The project provides for a two year rotation of eight artworks, and at the completion of the project the site would be returned to original condition, if required. Five of the eight works will be from ArtOrg's former "Five Sculpture" project where several of the sculptures were successfully rotated in a similar manner in front of an office building in Northfield. Events will be structured with the Library as each new work is rotated into place. For example, a documentary film could be shown as the work from Ray Jacobson (the late professor Emeritus at Carleton) is unveiled. Ed White (former Viking football player) could teach an art class to children as his artwork is moved in. Three new sculptures are also contemplated, one of which will be in collaboration with local CFHS students. A similar large student project has also been successful at the Northfield Library.

The Cannon Falls Library is aware that some/or all existing landscaping may need to be removed and has contacted the ad hoc garden group about the possible scope of the project. The Garden Group is in agreement that this project is a great opportunity. If landscaping needs to be removed it will be replaced at no cost to the city at the end of the project. Funds for the landscaping costs will be included in the grant.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends city council approve signing a letter of support for the Arts Board project.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

I respectfully request a motion to approve signing a letter of support for the Cannon Arts Board project.



March 17, 2015

SOUTHEASTERN MN ARTS COUNCIL
SEMAC Board of Directors
2778 D Commerce Dr NW
Rochester, MN 55901

The City of Cannon Falls supports the Cannon Arts Board, in collaboration with the Cannon Falls Library and ArtOrg, in pursuit and implementation of a two year rotation of eight artworks to be displayed outside the Cannon Falls Public Library. Our citizens will visually benefit from the sculpture display, and will learn about the process of creating artwork through the events that will complement the eight artworks.

The City of Cannon Falls appreciates the effort of the Cannon Arts Board in seeking grant funding to enhance the local community.

Sincerely,

Lyman M. Robinson
Mayor