

CITY OF LA CROSSE ARTS BOARD

ARCH OF NATURE - PROJECT TIMELINE AND MEETING MINUTES

Note: The below documents and text can be found on the [City of La Crosse Legistar](#). For convenience, the Arts Board meeting notes and attachments associated with the Arch of Nature Project have been copied/pasted below.

5/11/18: Consideration and discussion of stick sculpture at Riverside North Park. Roald Gundersen proposed an [Arch for Riverside North](#) for \$9750 on a 5-month schedule. Staff will work with the Redevelopment Authority and developer on feasibility, funding.

6/1/18: Consideration and discussion of stick sculpture at Riverside North. Sculpture includes wooden armature and would include harvested invasive species. Harvest and installation would be late spring (May-June). Staff suggested inquired about reuse for future installation. McArdle suggested a specific number of seasons and, definitive lifespan. Parker suggested La Crosse Area Foundation grant for funding (deadline 7/15).

9/7/18: Riverside North Public Art. Williams talked about Socrates Sculpture Park example in Queens, NY. Board to prepare some kind of proposal for Redevelopment Authority for their 9/27 meeting; invite to listening session.

11/2/18: Riverside North Public Art. Williams shared that Joe Keenan can get some money from Ho-Chunk for sculpture; Roald Gundersen proposal cost was \$10,000. Staff shared floodway district development issues, such as anchoring. Board will have to pick out locations; preferred more natural setting as opposed to concrete pads. One suggestion was to focus placement in visible area along Copeland out of the floodplain. Parker and Williams will create a formal statement incorporating the initial proposal and listening session summary.

3/1/19: Stick Sculpture - Roald Gundersen. Review [alternate locations](#); grant application due 4/15 & decision in May.

4/5/19: Stick Sculpture - Roald Gundersen. Update on grant and timeline.

7/5/19: Riverside North Stick Sculpture - Roald Gundersen. Discuss potential funding sources. McArdle suggested adjusting the focus of grant application and solicited ideas for private funding.

9/6/19: Gundersen Stick Sculpture. Funding options and [fact sheet](#) feedback (**\$9750 budget**).

12/6/19: Acceptance of Arch of Nature Contract - Roald Gundersen. Moses shared potential new branding for Riverside North - River Point District - may need to be referred to in future proposals. *Note: the proposal and contract download links do not work*

1/3/20: Discussion and Action on Sculpture Park Proposal. Changed from "Riverside North" to "River Point" ([proposal](#); [1st amended proposal](#))

2/7/20: Discussion and action on the relocation of Arch of Nature. Staff shared maps and code sections applicable to River Point District. Next step would be to schedule meeting with City Engineer to discuss location that wouldn't impact the integrity of the levee. Agreement would include Gundersen's role in the maintenance of the sculpture.

3/6/20: Direction for City Engineer to assist in identifying relocation or structural solutions for Arch of Nature siting. Gundersen has been in discussion with Turtenwald; may need survey of wetland and floodplain delineation for regulatory purposes.

5/1/20: Discussion on possible Arch of Nature location south of pedestrian bridge - Roald Gundersen. Staff will look into utility pole setback and request rendering of new arch.

7/10/20: Brainstorming on Arch of Nature funding source options. This could be part of an NEA Our Town Grant for the art park. McArdle asked about the possibility of sponsors like for the herons.

9/11/20: Arch of Nature, pending funding reallocation (Dillon)

8/6/21: Request to approve funding for site analysis for the Arch of Nature (to be discussed in September).

9/10/21: Request to approve funding for site analysis for the Arch of Nature. A motion was made by Neumann, seconded by McArdle, that the Request be APPROVED AS AMENDED TO OBTAIN A QUOTE FOR SITE ANALYSIS.

10/1/21: Request to approve a **\$2,000 quote** obtained for an H & H study for the Arch of Nature. ([Proposal for Engineering Services](#))

1/7/22: Update on the H & H study for the Arch of Nature (document download links do not work in minutes document)

3/11/22: Request to Approve the Revised Plan for Arch of Nature. **\$14,250. APPROVED.** ([invoice](#), [revised arch of nature drawing](#), [revised arch of nature proposal](#), [revised arch of nature acceptance contract](#)). *Note - standard terms condition download link does not work.*

1/12/23: Update on Arch of Nature. This newest update was combined with the plans for the Arts Board to allocate \$50,000 to the [Vibrant Spaces Grant](#) (only if matching funds could be secured). The Arch of Nature budget was listed at \$20,000 in the Vibrant Spaces budget. The motion to support the grant was approved, but art pieces could not be identified in the grant submission, and all projects will go through a selection process.