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**PARKS, RECREATION & FACILITIES
MANAGEMENT**

Dean R. Gazza, Director

1819 East Witzke Boulevard
Appleton, Wisconsin 54911-8401
(920) 832-5572 FAX (920) 993-3103
Email - dean.gazza@appleton.org

TO: Finance Committee

FROM: Dean R. Gazza, Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities Management

DATE: 7/10/2017

RE: Action Item: Award the Exhibition Center "Design and Development of Exhibition Center Artwork" contract to Rob Neilson in the amount of \$85,000.

The Exhibition Center budget includes \$85,000 in funding for artwork. The artwork to be included in this contract includes two pieces of interior art. Any other artwork for the facility will be planned and funded for in the future and not be included in the initial project budget.

Mayor Hanna selected a five panel Fox Cities Exhibition Center Artwork Committee. Members of this Committee include Jan Mirenda-Smith, Maria Van Laanen, Morgan Hogerty, Beth Flaherty and Renee Ulman. This Committee working directly with Zimmerman Architects issued a Request for Qualifications in which several artists responded. The RFQ's were reviewed and narrowed down to four artists who presented their ideas to the Artwork Committee on June 22, 2017. The four artists were Tom Grade, Linda Muldoon, Rob Neilson and Michael Meilahn. The Committee unanimously selected Rob Neilson for both pieces of art.

Based on the committee's recommendation, I am requesting you approve the contract with Robert Neilson for \$85,000.

Please feel free to contact me at 832-5572 with any questions, or by email at dean.gazza@appleton.org.