



City of Appleton

100 North Appleton Street
Appleton, WI 54911-4799
www.appletonwi.gov

Meeting Minutes - Final Appleton Public Arts Committee

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

8:00 AM

Council Chambers, 6th Floor

1. Call meeting to order

Chair Mische called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll call of membership

Present: 6 - Mische, Bauer, Riesterer, Fernandez, Hoekstra and Laste

Excused: 1 - Vang

Others present:

Abby Novak, Appleton Downtown Inc.

Tom Boldt, Celebrating Houdini 2026

Alex Schultz, Sculpture Valley

Jed Engel, 1745 N. Superior Street

Jamin Homan, Woodworker/Creator of Houdini Welcome Tower Model

Jennifer Stephany, Appleton Downtown, Inc. & Creative Downtown Appleton, Inc.

4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

[26-0405](#)

APAC Minutes from 3-4-26

Attachments: [APAC Minutes from 3-4-26.pdf](#)

Mische moved, seconded by Bauer, that the Minutes be approved. Roll Call.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mische, Bauer, Riesterer, Fernandez, Hoekstra and Laste

Excused: 1 - Vang

5. Public Hearing/Appearances

[26-0406](#)

Public Participation

Alex Schultz and Jennifer Stephany spoke on the proposed Houdini images to be placed in the Welcome Tower in Houdini Plaza.

[26-0407](#)

Presentation of Houdini Tower model made by Jamin Homan

Jamin Homan, RN and Director of Patient Safety with ThedaCare, as well as husband of Community Development Director Kara Homan, also a local woodworker, created a to-scale model of the Houdini Plaza Welcome Tower and presented the model to the Committee.

6. Action Items

[26-0273](#)

Request to approve proposal from Appleton Downtown Inc. to replace the existing College Avenue banners (from Badger Avenue to Drew Street) with a new design, as described in the attached documents

Attachments: [StaffMemo_CollegeAvADI_BannerReplacement2026.pdf](#)
[ExistingPhoto_CollegeAvADI_BannerReplacement2026.pdf](#)
[ProposalDescription_CollegeAvADI_BannerReplacement2026.pdf](#)
[DesignImages_CollegeAvADI_BannerReplacement2026.pdf](#)
[StaffMemo_CollegeAvADI_BannerReplacement2026_Revised.pdf](#)
[DesignImages_CollegeAvADI_BannerReplacement2026_Revised.pdf](#)

The Committee selected all 6 banners (including the 2 new designs presented today) and to stagger the similarly colored ones when placing all banners on the brackets.

Mische moved, seconded by Bauer, that all 6 ADI replacement banners be approved and to stagger the similarly colored ones. Roll Call. Motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mische, Bauer, Riesterer, Fernandez, Hoekstra and Laste

Excused: 1 - Vang

[26-0408](#)

Review images received from Creative Downtown Appleton, Inc. and the Year of Houdini Volunteer Group based on "Year of Houdini" theme, detail any potential edits, and recommend the images and layout of the tiles to be placed in the Welcome Tower in Houdini Plaza at 121 W. College Avenue (Tax Id #31-2-0065-00)

Attachments: [Houdini Welcome Tower Memo For APAC 4-1-26.pdf](#)
[Generative AI Technology Policy SB 2024.pdf](#)
[Houdini Photos - Full List.pdf](#)
[Results of Houdini Photos Voting by Public Arts Committee.pdf](#)

The survey results from the Committee member voting that took place prior to the meeting were presented to the Commission and are attached. After deliberation, the following photos were selected as the 12 photos to be placed in the tower, with placement noted according to location of each side of the tower, top to bottom, and to have all images crop squared, resolution enhanced, and black border added by Committee Member Jake Bauer by April 10 and for the Committee to review the edits at a special meeting on April 22.

NW: 37, 5A, 17

NE: 4 (alternate 8), 26, 16A

SW: 1, 38, 2A

SE: 19A, 6, 30

Mische moved, seconded by Riesterer, to select the following photos with placement noted per location side and organized from top to bottom: NW: 37, 5A, 17; NE: 4 (alternate 8), 26, 16A; SW: 1, 38, 2A; and SE: 19A, 6, 30 and for the images to be crop squared, enhance the resolution, and add a black border, revisions to be approved at a special meeting on April 22 be approved. Roll Call. Motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mische, Bauer, Riesterer, Fernandez, Hoekstra and Laste

Excused: 1 - Vang

7. Information Items

8. Adjournment

Hoekstra moved, seconded by Laste, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:26 am. Roll Call. Motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mische, Bauer, Riesterer, Fernandez, Hoekstra and Laste

Excused: 1 - Vang