

Community Assistantship Program

...a program of the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA)

Two Harbors Band Shell Park Upgrade: Evaluation and Design of Structure

Prepared in partnership with
Friends of the Two Harbors Band Shell
Northeast Minnesota Sustainable Development Partnership
(NMSP, University of Minnesota)

Prepared by
Felix Amenumey
Research Assistant
University of Minnesota

2012

CAP Report # 179

*This report is available on the CURA website:
<http://www.cura.umn.edu/publications/search>*

Center for Urban and
Regional Affairs (CURA)

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™

CAP is a cross-college, cross-campus University of Minnesota initiative coordinated by the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA). Funds for CAP were generously provided by the McKnight foundation and the Blandin foundation.

This is a publication of the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), which connects the resources of the University of Minnesota with the interests and needs of urban communities and the region for the benefit of all. CURA pursues its urban and regional mission by facilitating and supporting connections between state and local governments, neighborhoods, and nonprofit organizations, and relevant resources at the University, including faculty and students from appropriate campuses, colleges, centers or departments. The content of this report is the responsibility of the author and is not necessarily endorsed by CAP, CURA or the University of Minnesota.

© 2012 by The Regents of the University of Minnesota.



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, 444 Castro Street, Suite 900, Mountain View, California, 94041, USA. Any reproduction, distribution, or derivative use of this work under this license must be accompanied by the following attribution: "© The Regents of the University of Minnesota. Reproduced with permission of the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA)." Any derivative use must also be licensed under the same terms. For permissions beyond the scope of this license, contact the CURA editor.

This publication may be available in alternate formats upon request.

Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA)
University of Minnesota
330 HHH Center
301--19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
Phone: (612) 625-1551
Fax: (612) 626-0273
E-mail: cura@umn.edu
Web site: <http://www.cura.umn.edu>

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

Two Harbors Band Shell Park Upgrade: Evaluation and Design of Structure

The Two Harbors city band is one of the oldest band in the state of Minnesota (Gregor & Saur, 2012). It has played a vital role of entertaining the Two Harbors community as well as tourists for nearly 115 years. The construction of the Paul Gauche Memorial Band Shell in 1937, coupled with the dedication of band members has over the years contributed rich music production (Friends of the Band Shell Park, 2012). However, the Band Shell is now over 70 years, and this is telling on its current physical structure. The current condition of the band shell has led to the formation of “Friends of the Band Shell Park,” a committee with the aim to explore long-term options to enhance the Thomas Owens Park and the Band Shell. The purpose of the Two Harbors Band Shell Project is to improve the city band shell by upgrading or replacing it. The first phase of the project is to hire an architectural/engineering company to assess the existing Band Shell and come up with a plan for construction. The next phase will be fundraising, leading to the final phase of reconstruction of the band Shell.

Background

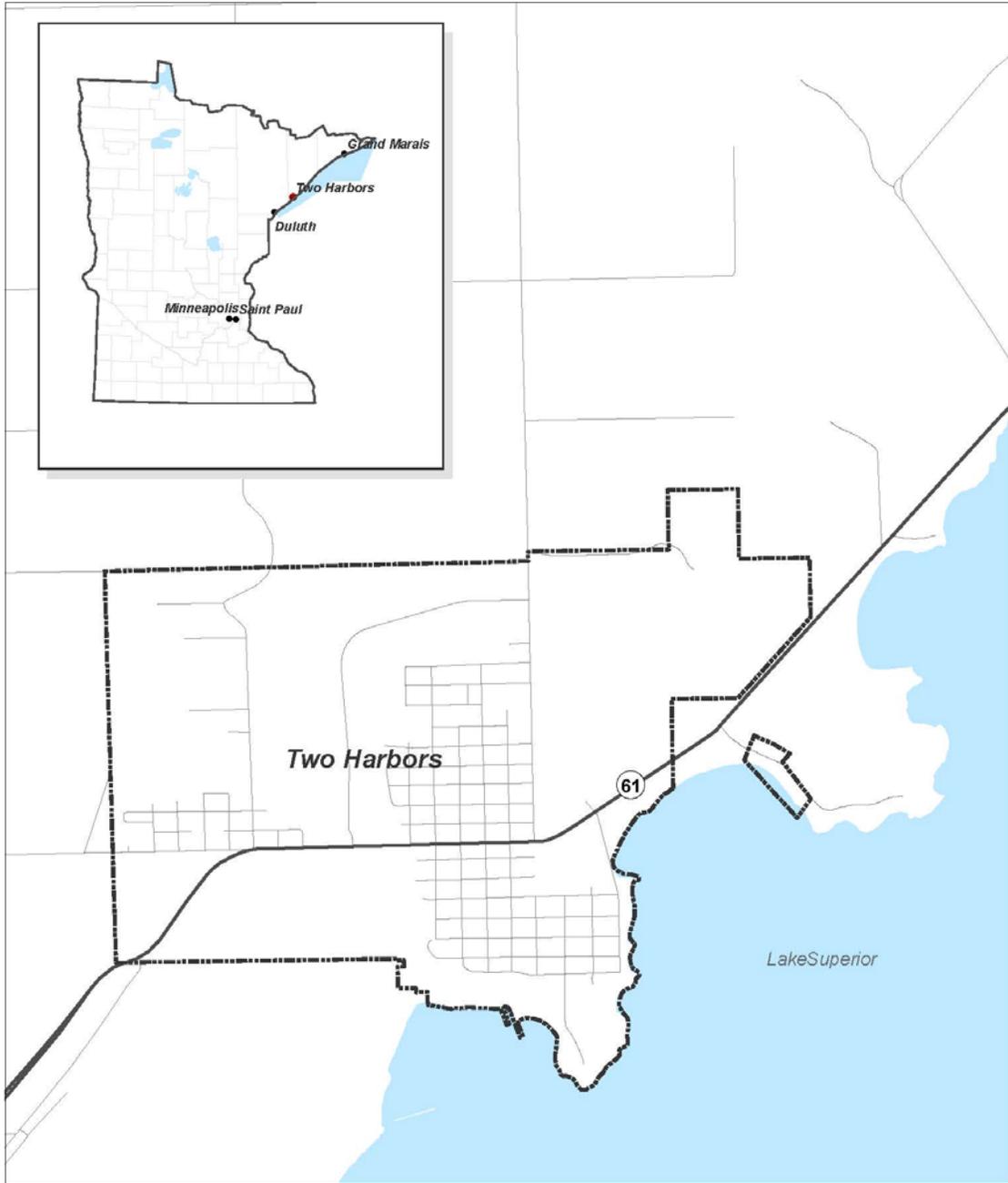
The Paul Gauche Memorial Band Shell has over the years played a crucial role in the social and cultural life of the Two Harbors community, as a result of its use by the city band for entertainment. The Band Shell is usually put into use in the Summer from mid-June through mid-August, and the city band performs every Thursday evening. These Summer programs are usually sponsored by local businesses, where treats are provided for participants (Gregor & Saur, 2012).

The city band’s performance draws people from all ages to gather in front of the Paul Gauche Memorial Band Shell at the Thomas Owens Park in Two Harbors to enjoy various musical selections. Apart from the Two Harbors community and surrounding area, tourists have also been drawn to the concerts of the city band. The city band also features during special events such as Heritage day, 4th of July celebration, etc.

Two Harbors Community

The city of Two Harbors is situated in Northeast Minnesota along the shore of Lake Superior. Two Harbors is the seat of the Lake County, and covers a total area of 3.30 square miles. The city is characterized with an elevation of 669 ft above sea level. The average precipitation in the city is 21-32 inches per annum, with an average temperature of 34 to 40 degrees Fahrenheit (National Association of Counties, 2012).

Two Harbors, MN



Map made by CURA Staff, Jan 2013
Data Sources: MN DNR, MN DOT



The 2010 census registered a total population of 3,745, 1,649 households, and 951 families for the city. The city has a population density of 1,134.8 inhabitants per square mile. The racial component of the city was 97.2% whites, 0.2% African American, 0.6% Native American, 0.2 Asian, 0.2% from other races, and 1.5% from two or more races (U. S. Census of Bureau, 2010).

According to the 2010 census, the median age in the city was 41.3 years. 22% of residents were under the age of 18; 8% were between the ages of 18 and 24; 23.9% were from 25 to 44; 25.1% were from 45 to 64; and 21.1% were 65 years of age or older. The gender component of the city was 47.4% male and 52.6% female (U. S. Census of Bureau, 2010).

Partners in the Project

The major partners of this project are:

- Friends of the Two Harbors Band Shell
- Northeast Minnesota Sustainable Development Partnership(NMSP)- University of Minnesota
- Center for Urban and Regional Affairs(CURA)- University of Minnesota
- Two Harbors Community

Contributions

The board has started receiving donations towards construction of the Band Shell. More donations are expected during the fund raising phase of the project.

NMSDP has approved \$ 8,000 for the preliminary design of the project. NMSDP is a division of Extension Office at the University of Minnesota facilitates sustainable development in Northeastern Minnesota by identifying and supporting targeted research and education projects; and by developing networks of cooperation with others and communicating its work (NMSDP, 2012).

The Center for Urban and Regional Affairs has hired me as a Graduate Research Assistant, under the supervision of Dr. Okey Ukaga (NMSDP) to assist in the assessment and designing of the Band Shell. CURA aims at connecting the resources of the University of Minnesota with the interests and needs of urban communities and the region for the benefit of all stakeholders (CURA, 2012).



Dr. Okey Ukaga (in maroon shirt) of NMSDP in a Meeting with the board/committee



Felix Amenumey (in maroon shirt) in a meeting with the board/committee



Some board/committee members of the band Shell

Activities

My role in this project is to work with NMSDP to ensure:

1. There is active citizenship, where local citizens participate in the designing and implementation of project.
2. There is adequate University involvement
3. Sustainable development, where project adheres to the principles of sustainability.

In terms of my involvement and activities in this project, I have worked with NMSDP to ensure that the committee involved all parties, including the University. Apart from involving of all stakeholders, we decided that the contracted engineering architectural company adhered to specific criteria of the contract. One of the criteria was to ensure that the project design is sustainable. In this regard, the design is to ensure that environmental friendly materials are used, so that there is minimal impact on surrounding environment. I have also participated in meetings where the committee was encouraged to take the necessary steps in order to win the city officials' support, as this is crucial for final project approval. In so doing, the engineering and architectural company is to ensure that city regulations concerning construction are met. The committee will also be keeping officials updated on progress of planning.

Participatory process for sustainable development was instrumental in helping the group move from a narrow and less participatory planning process to one that eventually became more holistic and more open. I applied the steps to engage the group:

- Asking critical questions
- Offering suggestions
- Listening

By asking critical and clarifying questions, individuals were helped to question their assumptions and realities. For instance, at the initial stage of deliberations, there was a lot of disagreement and antagonism regarding the processes of community involved, and how things should be done; but with a lot of discussions and explanations, The following was realized.

- More understanding and tolerance was experienced during meetings
- There was high level of trust during meetings
- The group was helped to make positive changes

In order for the company to adhere to the stipulated measures, Architectural- Sub-Committee will be meeting periodically with the company. Also, we have made arrangements to make payment by installment to the company, so that payments are made whenever all parties are in agreement with the work done. This arrangement makes room for the necessary corrections or adjustment as work progresses.

Accomplishment

So far the requirements under which the project is to be executed have been applied to a very large extent, if not completely.

In terms of active citizenship, Krech Ojard and Associates, a local engineering and architectural company has been contracted to undertake this preliminary phase of the Band Shell upgrade. Based on a preliminary assessment by Krech Ojard and Associates, recommendations have been made to pursue a new structure. Currently, the structure is too small at 40 seating capacity. This capacity will be upgraded to 60 seating. In addition, a completely new structure will be built, as the old structure is not worth trying to refurbish. Currently, the Band Shell is without its own rehearsal and storage space. The committee is not only looking at the rehearsal and storage space option, but also public restrooms, handicap accessibility, and multi-use areas for the community as a whole.



Current structure of Two Harbors Band Shell

The scope of this work will be to develop a site plan and make a exterior architectural revisions to the proposed building for fundraising purposes. Deliverables will be a graphic presentation of site plan, building elevation on a 24" x 36" foam core board. Landscape design will be completed by SAS associates.

Architectural/Structural Scope of Services

- Provide a 24" x 36" presentation board for marketing for the Friends of the Band Shell
- Drawings include architectural plans, elevations and site plan
- Opinion of probable cost
- Limit one on site meeting
- Limit one public meeting
- Provide a 75% revision review set for comment

Also, as part of public engagement, the board always publicizes their meeting times and events.

In terms of university involvement, NMSDP has always been updated or included in deliberations and decisions concerning the project; and this has been through meeting, email, and telephone communications. My role as a Graduate Research Assistant in this project also satisfies a piece of University involvement. Additionally, a UMD faculty is being engaged to do

an inventory of the Band's music library. There a total of about 1,300 music compositions, dating from 1805 that need to be evaluated.

Expected Outcomes

At the end of this initial phase of the construction, it is expected that, through public engagement, and all the measures put in place for monitoring and corrections, a final design will be approved leading to the construction of the new Band Shell. The final design will be used for capital campaign. The capital campaign is marketing strategy that will be used to raise funds for Band Shell construction. Although the first phase of the project is not yet complete, the mutual agreement being arrived at by all stakeholders, especially in areas of active citizenship, university involvement, and sustainable development, will guide in the realization of expected outcomes.

References

Cura (2012). Vision and Mission. Retrieved October, 20, 2012 from <http://www.cura.umn.edu/about/mission>.

Friends of the Band Shell Park (2012). The Two Harbors City Band & Friends of the Band Shell Park *A Tradition and Vision for the Future*. Retrieved November, 30, 2012 from <http://friendsofthebandshellpark.com/film.html>.

Gregor, J. & Saur, L. (2012). Friends of the Band Shell Park. Retrieved December 22, 2012 from <http://stream.publicbroadcasting.net/production/mp3/kumd/local-kumd-1013815.mp3>.

National Association of Counties (2012). Lake County. Retrieved January 3 2013 from <http://www.naco.org/Counties/Pages/FindACounty.aspx>.

NMSDP (2012). About the Region. Retrieved October 25, 2012 from <http://www.rsdp.umn.edu/Northeast/AboutTheRegion/index.htm>

U. S. Census of Bureau (2010). Two Harbors: 2010 Demographic Profile Data retrieved January 4, 2013 from http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_DP_DPDP1.

Felix Amenumey is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Minnesota in the department of Organizational leadership, policy, and Development.