

PRESS RELEASE

CULTURAL COMMONS PROJECT LAUNCHES WEBSITE & FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

The purpose of the site is to create a space for the community to learn more about the project.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Sara Brish, 715-344-2556, sara@stevenspointarea.com, Rotary Club of Stevens Point Publicity Chair

STEVENS POINT, Wis. (February 28, 2017)-

The Cultural Commons Project Committee launched www.spculturalcommons.com today. The Cultural Commons site was designed to provide additional insight on the project. The content on the site is very comprehensive and includes the project vision, architectural drawings, animated video, donation information as well as information on the partners working to make this project happen. The site will also serve as a resource for those wishing to donate to the project.

The Cultural Commons project has been proposed by four community organizations as a “point of beginning,” which will link our area’s early history to our ties beyond our city boundaries. The Cultural Commons will be a garden and education green space within Pfiffner Pioneer Park. Located just north of the lagoon and the Riverfront Art Gallery, and south of the bandshell, the Cultural Commons will blend into the natural environment at the riverfront. It will be an inviting place for all to relax, learn, and celebrate.

The Rotary Club of Stevens Point, the Polish Sister City, the Russian Sister City Project, and the Nicaragua Partners of the Americas have a long history of working to better international relationships through friendship and understanding with people from around the world. Within the Cultural Commons, the different cultures of the three sister/partner cities will be represented through native plantings, shade structures and walking paths.

The Polish section’s “River-scape” will represent the river that flows through Gulcz with a bridge over a rain garden. The Russian section’s “Archi-scape” will suggest the city’s walled town square on the banks of Lake Nero in Rostov Veliky with a small stone courtyard where two cement tables with inlay chess boards and benches will allow visitors to sit outdoors to play chess.

The Nicaraguan “Savanna-scape” will remind visitors of the dry mountainous terrain of Esteli with a rock garden and shade trellis. The Rotary Club of Stevens Point, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary in our city, will be represented through its symbol, the cog of a wheel, on the entrance gate and at the center point of the pathways of the Commons.

All plantings, many of which will be perennials, will be appropriate for the region and zone and similar to species found in each of the three sister/partner cities. Three signature sculptures representing the sister/partner cities will be added in each section as funds become available. All locations in the gardens will beckon visitors to linger and enjoy the river from various vantage points.

Similar international friendship gardens have been established in La Crosse, Superior and Rice Lake, Wisconsin.

Funds are currently being raised for this project from private and corporate donors. Volunteers from the four organizations will maintain the gardens, along with other community volunteers. Included in the project cost is a maintenance fund which will be available as needs arise in the future.

To learn more and to support this project, visit the Website www.spculturalcommons.com

If you would like someone to visit your organization to discuss this project or to get involved in the planning committee, please contact Sara Brish at Sara@StevensPointArea.com.