



ARTS COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
 Meeting Location: McConnell Center Room 323
 Meeting Date: 4-5-21
 Meeting Time: 6:30 p.m.

Present: Linnea Nemeth, Yulia Rothenburg, Rick Kincaid, Amanda Nelson, Cliff Blake, D'Artagnan Stein, Dennis Shanahan, Nancy Vawter, Jane Hamor, Mike Lee

Absent: Julia (excused) Nate (unexcused)

Guest: Ro Gavin

Call to Order: 6:34

This meeting was held virtually due to an emergency declared by board chair Jane Hamor. Linnea is in room 323 at the McConnell Center. Jane did a roll call of participants.

Citizens Forum: Ro Gavin

Ro was a nationally traveling drag queen before the pandemic. They used to do a show at a pub in Manchester, but they are looking for a new location. They are interested in putting together a circus, possibly in Henry Law Park. The working title for the event is *Lady Ro's Circus Spectacular*. They envision something similar to a show or cabaret, so they are interested in using the stage at the park. Ro is only going to hire women, queer and transgendered people. The show will be family friendly. Cliff suggested that Ro reach out to the Chamber and ask about Cochecho Arts Festival. Ro is going to put together a proposal for the Chamber and is hoping to use this as a jumping off point to use the stage for other events.

April minutes

Nancy made a motion to accept the minutes and Rick seconded. Passed unanimously.

Public Art and Landmarks Mapping

Linnea sent out a link with the working template. The project is coming along nicely.

2020 Grant Recipients Update

Jane heard back from Emily regarding her budget. She has spent all of the grant money, with a small amount left for publicity for Apple Harvest Day. The printing press project has been concluded, but no word yet on pieces for the exhibit in City Hall. We should update the language of our grant to give the Art Commission discretion to ask for the money back if recipients do not comply with the grant requirements.

Local Arts Organizations/Businesses Wellness Plan

Rick has reached out to the other members of the commission to check with their organizations. Money seems to be a big issue for a lot of places. Not everyone responded. Perhaps we need to move forward with the Zoom meeting, which might get more participation.



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Art Beat Project

They hit a bit of a glitch initially with the link not working. We have 3 businesses that are participating (Dupont's Service Center, Dr. Jody Low (a dentist) and Cinco de Mayo. We had initially appropriated \$200 for 2 businesses, so Jane made a motion to appropriate another \$100 to cover the third and Mike seconded. Passed unanimously.

Community Trail -Cliff/Nancy

Yulia discovered that there are grants for community trails. There is a grant application due June 15th. Linnea thinks that planning may be able to help us write the grant. There is a proposal from the City of Dover to expand the Community Trail with funds from the House Ways and Means Committee. We need to work on wayfinding. The school board was approached about a solar system project for the community trail and will be coming up as an agenda item at the next school board meeting.

Ninja Turtle Project

Dennis has had a couple of preliminary discussions with the city attorney. He is going to look in to drafting a city resolution to show city support of the project.

Waterfront Park

Linnea created a proposal for the waterfront committee—creative placemaking. It focused on how to make a creative and artful park. She sent it over to Steve Bird who will tell them about the proposal and will get back to Linnea about presenting to the committee.

Marketing Plan/DAC Display

Nancy and Linnea were focused on the waterfront proposal and so they were not able to focus on the marketing plan this month. Nancy has created a template for a project implementation plan. She encouraged everyone to take a look at it to become familiar with it.

DAC Logo

We're still making the transition from our old logo to the new one.

Master Plan Goals

Performing Arts Space in HS

Jane has not spoken with the high school as they are still focusing on getting the kids back into school/a routine.

Skatepark Status



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Linnea introduced D'Artagnan to Gary, but he hasn't really heard much since the original introduction. Gary is still working on the costs and the master plan but is interested in creating a space for artwork.

New Business/Updates

Governor's Award in the Arts was submitted, nominating the city.

Linnea sent along information about the creative placemaking webinar series. Yulia made a motion to allocate \$99 to purchase the series, and Nancy seconded. Passed unanimously.

We need to organize the citizens forum to make it more streamlined, including creating a time limit (15 minutes) and requiring a presentation ahead of time so we can review it with a deadline for submission of materials. If the materials are not submitted in time, then the presentation is moved to next meeting. If a presenter feels more time is needed, they must meet with a subcommittee first.

Deb Clough approached Yulia about painting the jersey barriers that are being used in the outdoor dining spots. We need to discuss the logistics of this project. Linnea is going to create a post for our FB page to gauge community interest.

Adjourned: 8:07

After the public meeting the Arts Commission went into executive session.