



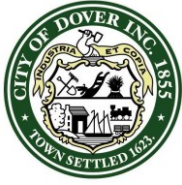
ARTS COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Special Meeting
 Meeting Location: Dover Public Library Conference Room
 Meeting Date: 11-8-21
 Meeting Time: 4:30 p.m.

Present: Linnea Nemeth, Jane Hamor, Nate Stewart, Cliff Blake, Julia Kirchmer, Nancy Vawter
 Mike Lee, D'Artagnan Stein Unexcused: Rick Kincaid

Meeting called to order at 4:34pm

1. Reviewed the DAC Master Plan and Goals in Appendix D
 Made changes, updated and refreshed goals as noted as of November 8, 2021
2. Discussion and prioritization of Current Projects
 - a. Americans For The Arts – Jackson Kaspari gave an update on the timeline. Over 300 communities in all 50 states are participating in the Arts & Economic Prosperity Survey 6 and with such a large response, the release of the welcome packet and survey start date have been delayed 2 months. We are expecting the Welcome Packet containing instructions; forms and details to arrive in February 2022, rather than December 2021. Survey data will still need a June submission. Members of the Commission will be able to attend a virtual town hall early in 2022. Non-profit organization questionnaires will be due on September 2022. Of the 800 in-person arts interviews, 400 must be on actual paper forms that AFTA supplies. It was again noted that only non-profit art organizations in Dover will become part of the data and that a final 30-page report on the survey will be forthcoming.
 - b. City Grants – Discussion of our DAC grants included talk of the scope of our grant awards. The DAC directs the funds allotted for art projects after the appropriate RFP is sent out to the general public. There was discussion about guiding the efforts of artist toward a commemoration of Dover's labor history, indigenous population and it's abolitionist history. Further discussion was about not limiting artists too severely, so to allow for artistic freedom. Jane mentioned a project being proposed by the First Congregational and St. John's churches as they began to search for an artist to create an image of indigenous peoples and their history. Linnea reminded us that we should be sure to use our funding that we have been able to rollover from one fiscal year to another before the funds reverted to the Dover City General Fund. Discussion jumped ahead to the topic of art on the Community Trail and from that came the consensus that we would create one large RFP for art rather than a number of smaller projects.



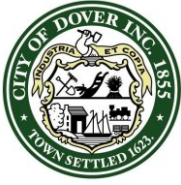
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- c. Waterfront Park – Discussion about the potential for art display planning for both the developers’ side of the project and the city’s part of the development- the park. Donna Benton, representing the City Planning office was in attendance for our entire meeting and agreed that there are two parts to the waterfront development. Cliff read his notes from a meeting with the Cathartis developer in which the developer would need overall concepts for art installations by April 2022 to be able to accommodate necessary infrastructure. Discussion revolved around a mural, a possible welcome archway, and static art. Also discussed was the adoption of artistic pavers and their design.
- d. Community Trail – Discussion of the concept of art installations on the Community Trail wound throughout our other discussions, but after it was agreed that the subcommittee consisting of three members of the DAC and the CTAC would meet to pick one location for an impressive art work, we settled on spending a generous amount of grant money to form the RFP. \$3,000 was discussed, and it would be left to the subcommittee to decide where and what the art RFP would look like. It was agreed that while it was not the prevue of the CTAC to install an artwork, the DAC would undertake the project from RFP to conclusion with the approval of the CTAC. Donna Benton will send the email addresses of the three members of the CTAC who will be part of the subcommittee.
- e. High School Theater – The DAC agreed to resurrect the high school theater project. Jane suggested a meeting with the new school board members and the superintendent. She also mentioned that a lot has been done in the wake of Covid-19 to finalize details of the rental agreement. DAC members agreed we would like to see Matt Cahoon’s evaluation of the facility that he performed two years ago. Donna Benton mentioned that the City Hall auditorium might also be used as a city performance space.

--brief intermission--

- f. Other projects
 - I. Literary Laureate – Discussion centered around reviving the Literary Laureate as an ac-hoc DAC member since the position was already adopted by the city. Jan Hamor asked Cliff Blake to restart the project perhaps in conjunction with the Dover Public Library. Cliff will contact Denise LeFrance to see if the library would consent to take on the Laureate, and manage the position and Laureate projects funded by the DAC.

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- II. Ninja Turtles – No news since our last monthly meeting. Still awaiting a response to our plan for a commemorative manhole cover from Viacom/CBS. There was a brief discussion about starting a public social media campaign to draw attention to the lack of corporate response, but that was not approved.
- III. Skateboard Park – As planning, design and early groundbreaking has already begun, it was decided that an introduction from the DAC offering support to the Skateboard committee is appropriate. Donna Benton said she will send contact information to the DAC.
- IV. Graffiti Wall – The owner of the green shed building along the CT will allow graffiti on the structure.

Other Topics discussed

The Dover 400th Committee - DAC members agreed that the 400th Committee agenda has been set. It was suggested that we invite them to a monthly meeting to suggest a project we can help with- but, we need to decide on the form of that project and its funding. One possible idea was to produce a video about famous artists of Dover. In any case, it was agreed we as a Commission should have a concept in mind BEFORE inviting the 400th to attend. Further discussion suggested that we use approximately \$7,000 to commission our own permanent 400th commemoration- maybe in the new Waterfront Park. Nate suggested that we incorporate underserved or indigenous artists or at least 'suggest' in the RFP for such an artwork that it support native Americans. Linnea said she will follow up with the 400th Committee.

Jane said that she will contact Gary Bannon, Donna Benton or the budget department to see about a greater apportionment to the DAC for FY 23.

Jane reported that she is asking Amanda to rewrite the contract for the Art Beat project to include the \$100 that a business gives to a displaying artist.

Jane also reported that a prominent artist in glass sculpture is working on a static piece for the front of the 2nd Street Courthouse project.

Nate motioned to adjourn, seconded by Julia. Meeting adjourned at 7:12pm