 CITY OF DOVER	ARTS COMMISSION – MINUTES	
	Meeting Type:	Special Meeting
	Meeting Location:	McConnell Center, Room 323
	Meeting Date:	September 12, 2022
	Meeting Time:	6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Jane Hamor, Yulia Rothenberg, Nate Stewart, Mike Lee, Nancy Vawter, Julia Kirchmer, welcome new members: Sarah Davidson and Jon Nichols.

Absent (excused): Cliff Blake, Kim Hanson

Other: Erin Bassegio, Outreach Coordinator/Assistant City Planner; Linnea Nemeth, City Council Liaison

Meeting called to order by J. Hamor at 6:32 PM. Land Acknowledgment read by Nancy Vawter.

1. Call to Order / Land Acknowledgment

This meeting takes place at Cocheco (CO-chi-co) on N'dakinna (n-DA-ki-na), now called Dover, New Hampshire, which is the unceded traditional ancestral homeland of the Abenaki (a-BEN-a-ki), Pennacook and Wabanaki Peoples, past and present. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the land, waterways, living beings, and the Alnubak (Al-nuh-bak), the people who have stewarded N'dakinna (n-DA-ki-na) for many millennia.

2. New Member Introductions

- a. Sarah Davidson, Dover resident (in Public Health) and Jon Nichols, Director of the Woodman Museum.

3. Citizens Forum – None.

4. Approval of July Minutes

N. Vawter motioned to approve. J. Kirchmer seconded. Vote: U/A.

5. Project Updates

- **Graffiti Committee** – Linnea updated from her notes: mostly talked about process. Have ideas to involve the HS students to participate in projects. North East Color – project in Henry Law Park -a mural in the tunnel b/n the two parks.
- **400th Committee** – Jane created an RFP for a sculpture. Paid each artist a stipend of \$500. to write a proposal. It was sent out to 12 artists. Six provided a design. There was a meeting discussing the designs submitted and the group selected on unanimously after a very lively discussion.
Action: Send proposal from Andrea Thompson, a canoe with branches to DAC via email.
- **Waterfront Committee** – This design was also presented to the Waterfront group. Already talked with developer about the sculpture and markers of historical events along the trail. Suggestion to see if this group could come up with a name for the park.
- **HS Theatre** – Kim sent in update: changed curriculum structure and hence new group will be vetting ideas for residency.
- **Community Trail** – Cliff working with Donna on purchasing the 2 sculptures from Jill Nooney of Bedrock Garden. Decided to put them on Fisher Street on both sides of the road.
Action: Provide pictures to the DAC members to see the sculptures.
- **Art Beat** – Julia reporting: explanation of the program for the new members. Potential to replace the 99 Faces exhibit at the HS with another one from local artists?
Action: Jane, Mike, and Julia to meet and discuss possible options for next steps.
Check with new owners of Adele's and Flight to see if they want to participate in the program.
Reach out to someone to exhibit in the city hall clerk's office cabinet.
- **Skateboard Park** – Construction is in process. Second phase will be the art portion. Nothing new to report.
- **Welcome to Dover Mural** – Nothing new to report. There was an artist interested from Rochester.
- **Ninja Turtles** – Union Street – the “manhole cover” will be in the sidewalk with a sign/marker on the street to point to its location. This was clarified.



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Film makers of Ninja Turtles Film offered funding and support of the man cover project!

The request for a state marker is in progress. It would be on Central and Silver. They are a year behind on the orders for these but will do their best to get it done by the 2023 summer for the 400th.

- **Keep Dover Wild** – Kim, Nancy and Yulia need to meet and plan the next one.
We have a list of people who signed up for the spring event. The fall event will be about trees and autumn foliage. We should do it after Apple Harvest and before Halloween. Ask Main Street to help? This time the business should pay the stipend to the artist and we should just coordinate the event.
Action: Schedule a meeting and outline a timeline.
- **Racial Equity & Inclusion** – Councilor Nemeth - Land acknowledgment plaques. Committee is working with Library and Pouliots have been advising to schedule 2 events on the topic and Indigenous People's Day.
- **Rotary Pavilion Tunnel Mural** – This is in the tunnel between museum entrance and the lower park and playground. Jane, Cliff met with Gary Bannon, Erin Bassegio and Thayne Fagg from Northeast Color to brainstorm – make it interactive for the kids. North East Color would help to paint it during their service day [one 8-hour day].

6. **Americans for the Arts Survey Update -**

- a. Woodman – Jon Nichols will take this over from Cliff – he can put the surveys in the entrance and will update us on any events.
- b. Northeastern Ballet – Jane – two events per year
- c. Children's Museum – Julia – will keep doing surveys
- d. 400th Commission – Cliff
- e. Chamber – Nancy
- f. Strand – Nate – they keep canceling events, check before heading down with the surveys – Sarah Jon will help out with this, she knows Dan and attends the Strand movie events.
- g. Library or Friends of the Library – they are holding events in the community, like at Garrison Beer Works on Thursdays! Nate will attend and bring surveys.
- h. Main St. – Mike
- i. DALC – Kim
- j. Indonesian Community Connect – Yulia - most of their events are held in Somersworth.
- k. Greek Church – Nate – it is finished. Only one big event and they did not want us to come.
- l. Elementary Schools – Nancy – now that school is back in session, will post some events to attend.
- m. High School & Middle School – Kim
- n. First Parish Church – Nate will take that one.

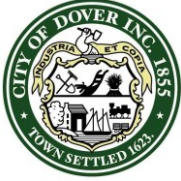
7. **AEF6 Survey Status** – Current count is 318 surveys submitted. We need 800 by next April. Still a lot to go. Please, pitch in when you can. Everyone has access to the google calendar and put events if you know what they are.

- a. Community Trail Chalk Art Project, September 17 & 18 (Rultand St – Fisher St)
- b. Marching Band at the HS

Please, come and park on a bench and distribute the surveys. Pick up more surveys and clipboards at the planning department at city hall, first floor.

8. **Unfinished Business** –

- a. Pay expenses for Cliff, Nancy, and Yulia for conference SeaChange – Natasha will follow-up.

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9. **Commission's Matters of Interest/Update**

- Nancy Vawter suggested that there should be a canopy over the seating area of Rotary Pavilion during the hot summer days. Probably a future project but maybe a grant from the Rotary?
- Aplomb Gallery opened behind Chapel & Main. It is Danielle Festa's new space.
- City Hall Auditorium – ask Mike Gillis about a possible grant from NH Historical or other preservation granting entity to restore the auditorium so it could be used by outside groups.
Action: Jon Nichols will check with Mike Gillis.
- Apple Harvest Day – we will have a booth, not sure which number yet, they will post it soon. We have a bag with tabling materials, Julia has it. We need to take turns, Jane has a sign-up sheet. We will need three people at the booth and walking around with the surveys, music venues, other places.
- Board Retreat – Plan for January.

10. **Adjourn**

Y. Rothenberg motioned. N. Vawter seconded. Vote: U/A.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.