

CITY OF DOVER

ARTS COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, Room 323
Meeting Date: Monday, May 1, 2023
Meeting Time: 6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Jane Hamor, Cliff Blake, Julia Kirchmer, Jon Nichols, Kim Hanson, Jacqueline Finnerty, Nancy Vawter, Yulia Rothenberg, and Mike Lee

Other: Natasha Kypfer, Zoning Administrator/Assistant City Planner; Linnea Nemeth, City Council Liaison

Excused: Sarah Davidson

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm / Land Acknowledgement read by C. Blake

1. Citizens Forum

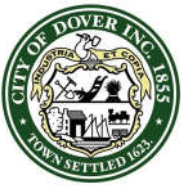
Steve Bargdill, Literary Laureate (to be appointed); Jeff Berstein, Dover citizen; and, Shane Rutherford, Dover artist

2. Approval of April Minutes

Y. Rothenberg motioned to approve. K. Hanson seconded. Vote: U/A

3. Project Updates

- a. **Literary Laureate** – Steve shared his background & preliminary future plans: Author Week with Dover Public Library, UNH Anne Williams writer's circle, Children's Literature, Bring in speakers possibly Rebecca Rule. Steve will continue to gather ideas and make a plan. Press release will go out next week. This position is an ex officio member to the Commission, appointed as the Literary Laureate, which will go before City Council in early May.
- b. **Graffiti Committee** – Natasha: DAC endorsed name "Community Art Walls", which will be located in various spots along the Community Trail. MOU set to go before City Council at their first May meeting, then will need to be signed by Property Owner and City Manager. The hope is for an install by the end of June 2023. Also, multiple private walls for large murals in the works, teaming up with the Teen Center on a grant. Grand opening event for ALL walls anticipated late Summer 2023.
- c. **400th Committee** – Cliff shared a list of events: Interactive Walk, Block-party (7/1), Parade (7/2), Down on the Water-Henry Law Park, Scholarships for HS Seniors- 3 at \$400 and 1 for \$1623, DHS art students created celebratory color-pages for area restaurants for kiddos to color. Jane shared update on exhibit at The Art Center Gallery: Art call was put out. Cost free for members \$20 non-member. Open 7/7/23 thru August
- d. **Waterfront Committee** – Meeting Wednesday 5/3/23 Still working on logistics
- e. **HS Theatre** – Jane & Kim met with Suzanne Weete to work with the DHS Mental Health Initiative (MHI). Next steps talk with group advisors Steve Pappajohn and Dean Thomas Waldron to discuss how MHI could expand their participants to include middle-school students.
- f. **Community Trail** – Jacqueline: ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday, May 2, at 6 p.m., to celebrate the installation of the Voyage Mark II Solar System exhibit. Cliff: Sign at the "Snake Eyes" costs \$70 and will be 6"X9"
- g. **Art Beat** – Jane: 7 businesses involved and 16 artists submitted work. Work will be displayed this week. Artists that did not get chosen have option to display work around Dover: City Hall, McConnell Center Café, Art drop off in Planning Dept office. Reception in McConnell Ctr Café May 2023. Keep a look out for invitation.
- h. **Skateboard Park** – No new information
- i. **Public Art Projects / Planning** – No new information
- j. **Ninja Turtles** – Natasha – Mr. Lane's IndieGoGo fund is at \$9,405.
- k. **Keep Dover Wild** – Jacqueline: Continuing to find artists and businesses to participate. Event is scheduled for May 20, 2023. Suggestions to reach out to DHS/DMS Art teachers to include art students and Steve Pappajohn from teen center. Dover Retailers Meeting: The first Monday of the month at 8:30am.
- l. **Racial Equity & Inclusion** – Linnea: Recruiting for committee (need 4 members) meetings are 4th Thursdays of the month. Added \$10,000 to city budget for a consultant to assist with liaison/goal work. July 2023 the first marker in Dover for the Black Heritage Trail will be place in Pine Hill Cemetery.



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4. **Review & Report on 2023 Goals** – Yulia, Jon & Mike: Goal 1.1 Group will canvas organizations/venues summer '23 then host quarterly stakeholder's mtgs fall'23. Work towards coordinating & converging calendars across city.
Nancy: Social Media/Webpage Goal 5.3 & 5.4 Jacqueline would like to be added to group, Linnea will check with who has access to accounts and connect with Nancy to allow her access.
5. **City Arts Grant**
 - Waiting for invoice from Graffiti committee
 - 22-23 Appropriation budget balance: \$3,106.15 (After \$1,000 to Graffiti wall construction).
 - Place balance into trust by June 30, 2023
6. **AEP6 Survey Status** – Natasha reported current total of 804 surveys completed. Continue to collect surveys until deadline May 31, 2023. Library events, Dover Clean-up Day (May 6)
7. **Unfinished Business**
 - a. AARP Grant – More information coming mid-May 2023, as that is when results are expected. Turtle icon for wayfinder
8. **Commission's Matters of Interest/Update** –
 - a. Nate Stewart resigned
 - b. DAC alternate opening – reach out to interested citizens
 - c. Spring Fling Event May 6th – Reid Amy (organizer, Business Development): Sidewalk Chalk & Bubbles
 - d. Dover Retailers Meeting: 1st Monday of Month, 8:30am: Kim volunteered to attend to have a DAC presence & see how we can contribute and be involved.
 - e. CHRISTMAS – Jon: Woodman Institute hosting Artisan Fair & Holiday Light Trail 1st 3 Fridays & Saturdays from 4-6pm offered the DAC a booth and spot on the trail.
 - f. Shane: Asked about art on electrical boxes around city. **Per electric Company: not allowed to alter those boxes.** Art on Traffic Light boxes allowed in city. After discussion and detail sharing, encouraged Shane to apply for City Arts Grant. Reminders: needs a Community component-(include local rotary group, teen center students)
 - g. Shane: Question about art actions to raise money for projects for commission. Explained that DAC not allowed to fundraise. Suggested for him to submit art to help for Channel 11 Auction.
 - h. Displaying artwork in the city of Dover: reach out to Jane or Yulia. List of spaces that display art on rotation basis.
 - i. Nancy: Chamber of Commerce - Coheco Arts Festival, August 5, 2023: Arts & Craft Day FREE Booth: email Hope Anderson hope@dovernh.org or Nancy Vawter nvawter@dover.nh.gov
 - j. Cliff: State Commission of Arts-Bloomberg Asphalt Art Initiative Grant: award up to 20 cities grants of up to \$25,000 each. Creation of art on roadways/sidewalks/public spaces. <https://asphaltart.bloomberg.org/grants/>
 - k. To Do List: Compile a list of all grants/amounts/due dates
9. **Adjourn**

J. Nichols motioned to adjourn at 8:02pm, Y. Rothenberg seconded. Vote: U/A