

CITY OF DOVER

ARTS COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Regular Meeting
Meeting Location:	McConnell Center, Room 323
Meeting Date:	April 4, 2022
Meeting Time:	6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Cliff Blake (Co-Chair), Yulia Rothenberg (Secretary), Nancy Vawter, D’Artagnan Stein, Nate Stewart, and Caitlin Little

Staff Present: Natasha Kypfer, Assistant City Planner

Other: Councilor Robert Hinkel; Gary Bannon, Recreation Director; Debra Martuscello-Wiley; Kim Hanson; and, Elizabeth Grabel.

Absent: Rick Kinkaid, Julia Kirscher, Mike Lee, Councilor Linnea Nemeth, and Jane Hamor [Excused]

Meeting called to order 6:32 PM.

1. Citizens Forum

- a. Debra Martuscello-Wiley – Director and producer of the Christmas Carol production. Looking to start a Dover theatrical company and looking for a location to present the play. Having trouble with the costs of the DHS auditorium. DAC recommended she books the City Hall auditorium. Help her to get in contact with Dan Demers from the Strand to be able to schedule that venue.

2. Approval of March Minutes

C. Blake had an edit, on page 1 of the 3/7/22 meeting minutes: change \$27K to \$2,700.

Regular Meeting, 3/7/22 – N. Vawter motioned to approve. N. Stewart seconded. Vote: U/A.

Special Meeting, 3/10/22 – C. Little motioned to approve. N. Stewart seconded. Vote: U/A.

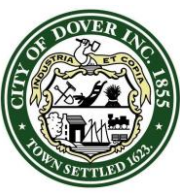
3. Americans for the Arts Survey Update / Non-profit outreach – N. Kypfer

Received additional information from the AFA group. Jane will distribute on her return. The survey will run from May 2022 to April 2023. Will start collecting surveys in May.

- a. Woodman – D’Artagnan, new director, will try again.
- b. Northeastern Ballet – Jane - absent
- c. Children’s Museum – Julia - absent
- d. 400th Commission – Cliff – Yes, reached out
- e. Chamber – Yulia, Nancy, & Nate – yes, reached out and confirmed with Margaret that they will support in any way they can.
- f. Strand – Rick - absent
- g. Library or Friends of the Library – Caitlin – waiting to hear back, will check again.
- h. Main Street – Mike - absent

4. Ongoing Projects

- a. *Waterfront Advisory Committee Presentation report* – D’Artagnan (Cliff, Jane) – see appendix with notes from the meeting. Discussions on the art location. Will depend on the outcome of the RFP from the artist submissions. Steve Bird is the project manager.
- b. *Maura Sullivan Art Display Issues* – Gary Bannon reported that the request has gone to the attorney and a contract/MOU has been drafted and signed. Maura’s sales income would benefit the Hyder House. Next step is approval by the City Council, should be this coming Wednesday. In the future, we would like to have a workflow for how to make this easier and who needs to do what, so that we can streamline the process. Natasha will look into this. City Clerk is the central funnel for all the processes, they may be a good starting point to contact to get this going.
- c. *Community Trail* – Cliff, Nancy, & Yulia – Cliff reporting: it seems that the facilities and grounds seem to be the point of contact for the 4th street head location where the trail committee would like to see the art. The conversation continues.
- d. *400th Committee* – Cliff – shared the sticker they created for the businesses windows, it will be a bigger version of that. NH For Humanities would give matching funds for the flag project and possibly some other projects. Would need to seek other funding elsewhere to match the funding. They plan a New Year’s Eve gala as a fundraiser.



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- e. *HS MHI Mural* – Cliff/D’Artagnan – the design has been decided on and paints purchased. [see attached exhibit] In the same project, there will be 99 faces exhibit to demonstrate the people to remove stigma from mental health and illness.

Nate – what are they doing to create awareness? Caitlin -they have a training for the students, mentors, and teachers on mental health first aid. Great program which helps to identify signs of stress and intervene. The students are very involved and have initiated the program themselves.

- f. *Art Beat* – Jane, Mike, & Julia – no updates, absent.

- g. *Marketing / Community Visibility & Outreach plan* – Nancy, Caitlin, Yulia, Nate, Julia

Nancy, Caitlin and Yulia met and discussed the agenda from the last meeting.

Nancy reporting: identified the cost for the tent and table covering and will get more precise pricing. Gary Bannon will look into storing it for the DAC for various events.

Caitlin proposed that we offer a downtown painting on windows event, to take place during the May clean-up day. Yulia connected with Reid and Nancy connected with Margaret, who suggested reaching out to Reid. We are calling it “Keeping Dover Wild” with the suggestion of using NH wildflowers as the theme.

- i. Cliff proposed appropriating \$500.00 for the project, to be paid to the artists as stipend and for the materials: paints and brushes, as required.

C. Blake motioned to approve. N. Stewart seconded. Vote: U/A.

DAC tagline: Caitlin suggested “Activating arts in Dover” we are the activators and connectors and guides to the various groups and appropriate entities in the city to make things happen. This could be our tagline for the FB/Instagram and for the printed logo on the tent and the tablecloth.

Caitlin would like to find a community art space for rehearsals and for various small events. Reid suggested we reach out to Chinburg group, David Schleyer and ask them if they have a vacant space. The building where the old “smoke signals” shop was recommended since it is currently vacant.

Yulia will be speaking with the Chinburg group.

- h. *Ninja Turtles Marker* – James Lane – Nate, nothing new but still on track with the marker.

5. Unfinished Business

- a. *Graffiti Committee* – Nate – the meeting was cancelled. Nothing to report.

6. Commission’s Matters of Interest/Update

- a. *Federal Earmark spending proposals through Congressman Pappas’ office* – D’Artagnan will read the document and work with a City Council member to create a proposal for art project earmarks.
- b. *Welcome to Dover Mural* – Jane
- c. *Skate Park* – Cliff – keeping in touch with Gary Bannon, nothing to report this month.

7. Adjourn

N. Vawter motioned to approve. C. Little seconded. Vote: U/A.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.