



CITY OF DOVER

ARTS COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, Room 323
Meeting Date: Monday, September 8, 2025
Meeting Time: 6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Elise Morissette, Cliff Blake, Kim Hanson, Jacqueline Manning, Jane Hamor, Paige Vaughn, Yulia Rothenberg, Shane Morin and Aleka Monroe

Other: Paul Crouser - Planning Staff, Linnea Nemeth – City Council Representative, Adele Sicilia

Excused: Sarah Davidson, Amy Warnock, and Jon Nichols

Unexcused:

Called to Order at 6:33pm.

Land Acknowledgement read by K.Hanson

1. Citizens Forum:

- a. Citizen Jeff Bernstein was in attendance again!*
- b. Introduced the Commission and Literary Laureate, Shane Morin.*

2. Approval for July 2025 Minutes

- a. Date was corrected – Y.Rothenberg motioned to approve, C.Blake seconded. VOTE: U/A*

3. Budget Report

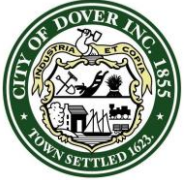
- a. Paul has been working to clarify the budget*
- b. Legacy fund = \$12,768*
- c. Operating Budget = \$5,641.64*
- d. There was discussion on clarifying the spending operations because some expenses were spent through the legacy rather than the operating budget. P.Crouser to contact Dept. head and Finance to rectify.*

4. Central Ave Sculpture

- a. J.Hamor addressed the commission that the sculpture was a huge success and gratitude for all our work put into it (members, volunteers, donors).*
- b. Looking into different publishing about the installation*

5. Marketing

- a. E.Morissette is finishing up the logo development*
- b. There are some concerns of the logo being a pdf rather than a .png, so more research to come*
- c. Y.Rothenberg will reach out to Mike Lee about making logo adjustments - DAC members clarified how to present proposals in the future.*
- d. P.Crouser sent old logo vector during meeting*



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6. Literary Laureate

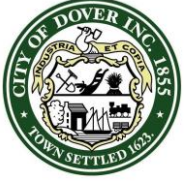
- a. *S.Morin presented the next proposal for Dover reads program*
 - i. *The book would be The Green House, by Dan Lawton*
 - ii. *Looking to connect with the Dover Library and Aime Lockhardt to bring back*
- b. *Dover reads and communicate*
 - i. *S.Morin is looking to ways to present poetry in our community*
 - ii. *Looking into different locations like Auspicious Brew, Aplomb Gallery or Cara's to host events*
 - iii. *Shane is looking to connect with the local teens in writing workshops*
 - iv. *Looking to connect with the Teen Center as a starting point*
 - v. *Discussion of what teens might want to participate in*
 - vi. *So far, all the projects are projected to cost \$0*
- c. *S.Mornin asked how we can collaborate with out of city resources like Wentworth Greenhouse for a floral writing project*
 - i. *K.Hanson mentioned trying to connect with local flower/garden shops as well.*

7. City Arts Grant

- a. *A city arts grant was submitted and some commission members reviewed it to suggest changes to the applicant to resubmit*
- b. *J.Hamor proposed to the meeting that we should normalize meeting to prereview applications and encourage applicants to be more thorough with their applications for better success of acceptance*
- c. *K.Hanson proposed taking down the application from the website so applicant reach out to the commission first*
 - i. *P.Crouser says we can't have an application and not make it publicly available*
- d. *More clarification of how we evaluate our applications*

8. Project Updates

- a. *The Graffiti Committee: Park St mural was a success*
- b. *Waterfront: we have concrete pads, just need to find their locations (x3 pads); the River Roots sculpture is getting ready to install*
- c. *Community Trail: planning on doing Chalk Walk again next year*
- d. *A Seacoast Garden at the Sarah Orne Jewett House: being well received and open until October*
- e. *Public Art Projects: all on hold; next most likely projects are light boxes*
- f. *Art Beat: making plans on who can help with the next launch of the project*
- g. *Fiber Frenzy: We keep losing tree sweaters; breakdown of the event is this week;*
 - i. *looking to make themes for it or have volunteer help from the community members and perhaps the project grows a life of its own; thinking of other locations to also fiber up and thinking of other connections like the graffiti committee*
- h. *Visiting Sculpture Program: developing a sculpture rental outline that contains the art call and parameters, with notes from former commission member Mike Lee;*
 - i. *we are allocating \$300 per sculpture to rent based on other city sculpture program*



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- ii. *Subcommittee to be created consisting of E.Morissette, J.Hamor, C.Blacke, Y.Rothenberg and A.Monroe;*
- iii. *P.Crouser suggests that we be sure to craft this project and meet city guidelines/expectations*

9. Unfinished Business

- a. *Main St Flags: 1 application*
 - i. *Decided to postpone due to low responses*
 - ii. *Waiting until February*
 - iii. *Proposing that the banners don't need to be city related*
- b. *- Ninja Turtle Day: J.Nichols has a vision, but perhaps viable for next year*

10. Matters of Interest/Updates

- a. *J.Nichols wrote in and proposed the DAC sponsor a trunk for the Trunk or Treat event led by the Woodman Museum*
 - i. *DAC turned down the opportunity*
- b. *Apple Harvest Day: DAC will hopeful survey the community like in the past*
 - i. *conflict with sharing the tent with planning this year, and J.Manning volunteered hosting at a different committee tent; will have an easel and clipboards with the information*
- c. *Susan Kelsche arrived and proposed a church pew she is getting rid of for a mural project; the DAC have some leads with the high school or the teen center for this project and will follow up with those leads*

11. Adjourn –

- a. *J.Manning moved to adjourn. K.Hanson seconded. Vote: U/A at 8:21pm*