



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, Kim Hanson, Jacqueline Manning, Jane Hamor, Paige Vaughn, Yulia Rothenberg, Shane Morin, Amy Warnock, Jon Nichols, and Aleka Monroe

Other: Donna Benton - Planning Staff, Linnea Nemeth – City Council Representative, Steve Bargdill, Holly Wendorff, Caroline Parent

Excused: Cliff Blake, Sarah Davidson

Unexcused:

1. Call to Order/Land Acknowledgement

- a. *Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM*

2. Citizens Forum:

- a. *Local artists attended this meeting to share their mediums and to look for more local connections*
- b. *Holly Wendorff, high school art teacher for Dover High School*
 - i. *Updated about member of the National Honors Society*
 - ii. *Shared about what projects and events they have been up to*
 - iii. *Clarified their progress on the light box murals*
- c. *Steve Bargdill, former literary laureate, representing Cocheco River Writers group*
 - i. *Working on a writers workshop in spring hopeful*
 - ii. *In the planning phase, but hopes the DAC can be involved somehow*

3. Approval for September 2025 Minutes

- a. *J.Nichols motioned to approve, J.Manning seconded. VOTE: U/A*

4. Budget Report

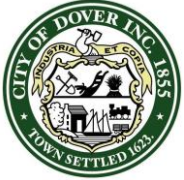
- a. *Legacy fund = \$12,768*
- b. *25/26 Operating Budget = \$4,5081.28 as of Sept 25th*

5. Marketing Report

- a. *Looking to create video clip of sculpture*
- b. *J.Hamor reached out to Mike Gillis for assistance in creating.*

6. Literary Laureate

- a. *Poets Corner Workshop at Milk Street Studio - 4-5 average attendance*
 - i. *Shane footing the \$25 member fee, and give attendees a code to get in instead*
- b. *Poetry Night*
 - i. *Good attendance so far with a variety of attendees*
- c. *Generative Poetry Nights at Aplomb Gallery*



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- i. Poetry that respond to the art in the space*
 - ii. This session focused on the show, Night and Day, and the poetry will be sent to the artists participating in that show*
- d. Dover Reads*
 - i. Planning on purchasing 10 books for 5 different locations*
 - ii. Cost will be \$490.67 for 50 books (included discount)*
 - iii. DAC discussed to pay for these books and guided Shane, the Literary Laureate, to talk to Paul to receive the funds; Dan Lawton (author of this book, the Green House) to receive honorarium payment of \$150*
 - iv. Y.Rothenberg motioned to allocate \$650 to purchase books and pay the author. J.Nichols seconded. Vote: U/A.*
- e. Shane is still surveying local teens for what they are interest in participating in literary events*
 - i. Working on building relationships with local networks*
 - ii. Dover High School is still unresponsive*

7. Visiting Sculpture Program

- a. New name to be "Riverwalk Sculpture Series"*
- b. Zoom meeting Nov 4th in the evening with the work group*
 - i. To figure out answers for Chris Parker*
 - ii. Paul working on MOU*
 - iii. Aiming for January launch based on the waterfront development*

8. Project Updates

- a. Graffiti Committee*
 - i. no updates*
- b. Waterfront*
 - i. 400th sculpture, Riverroots, to be installed this month*
- c. Community Trail*
 - i. no updates*
- d. Public Art Projects*
 - i. Library = getting large interior mural as a paid artist opportunity (5k stipend)*
 - ii. Chestnut St development thinking of window banners or train mural*
- e. Art Beat: no update - looking for more commission members to help run this project and have it in time with the May Spring Fling*
- f. Fiber Frenzy: still looking to outsource the project to local citizens*
- g. Art Stops w/ COAST*
 - i. DAC allocated \$500 of the operating budget to refresh the banners at the bus stops; corresponding with Rad at COAST drafting up the location options*



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- ii. *DAC think of buying 4 new posters with 1 new artwork*
- b. *Light Boxes*
 - i. *See “Holly, high school art teacher” in Citizen forum for light box updates*

9. Unfinished Business

- a. *Main St Flags: postponed until the first of 2026*
- b. *Ninja Turtle Day*
 - i. *J.Nichols aiming for 2026*
 - ii. *working with multiple commissions and nonprofits to make a multi-faceted, city-wide event*

10. Commission’s Matters of Interest – 9/11 Memorial

- a. *J.Nichols mentioned the old Earcraft building is getting a holiday window mural*
- b. *J.Nichols mentioned the project called, City Lights, started by the nonprofit Communitively*
 - i. *fundraised money to hire two professional lighting companies to install holiday lights (almost to goal)*
- c. *9/11 Memorial to be installed before the 25th anniversary in Cocheco Square*
- d. *The Woodman Trunk or Treat was a success, and wondering how the DAC can participate next year*
 - i. *DAC looking for what arts in the event could city funds be appropriate for*
- e. *Amy Warnock pitched time constraints to meeting topics since meetings can go on later than 8pm*
- f. *Immigrant Heritage month to be pitched to DAC on a later date*
- g. *City Arts Application has some developments but not formally submitted, but DAC members can review updates and give feedback*

11. Adjourn –

- a. *A.Warnock moved to adjourn. Y.Rothenberg seconded. Vote: U/A at 8:21pm*