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ARTS COMMISSION – AGENDA SUMMARY

Meeting Type: Arts Commission
Meeting Location: McConnell Center Cafeteria
Meeting Date: **Monday, December 14, 2009**
Meeting Time: **6:15 pm**

6:25pm. meeting commenced.

Members Attending: Jeff Johnson, Joyce El Kouarti, Kim Schuman, Gail Tanner, Melissa Doucette, Jane Hamor, Bob Walker, Maya Deane

Members Absent: Harvey Turner

1. Guest: Carolyn Schwartz from CATA to discuss ~~the~~ a butterfly mural which students at CATA would like to donate and install in the Butterfield Gym in honor of teacher Tom Allen. Carolyn presented concept and discussed materials and how it will be produced. Commission members gave feedback and ideas on materials used and construction of mural. Arts Commission has unanimously endorsed the concept and requested a final proof of materials list be submitted for final review.
2. Maya's report on conversations with local artists and Dover Chamber of Commerce.
 - Contact with Dover Mill Arts Collaborative. Although unable to meet with Brint Shone she did meet briefly with Rebecca Proctor who is the main contact for the Arts Collaborative. Maya said she would stay in contact with Rebecca in attempt to secure more information on how the Arts Commission could assist or work together with the Arts Collaborative to benefit local artists.
 - Maya toured One Washington Center/Picker Building and met some individual artists and gained positive feedback on the helpfulness of Brint Shone and the Chamber of Commerce.
 - Maya plans to continue dialogue with individual artists and believes a one-on-one approach is good in starting relationships with them.
 - Maya reported that she met an attorney who represents the League of NH Craftsmen who may be able to assist in reaching out to Dover artists.
 - Maya has joined the Cochecho Arts Festival Committee. She offered ideas on how to theme the shows with artists to display work that compliments the style of the musicians who are performing. She mentioned having artists display their work during daytime shows instead of evening. The commission also discussed adding dance to compliment the music and the possibility of a 50/50 raffle for a piece of artwork by a featured artist. Also discussed were ~~the~~ possibility of adding a video clip to the Chamber website as a way to feature artists.
 - Commission members also discussed:
 - Collaborating with the Chamber of Commerce to help other artists in Dover outside of the Washington Street Mill.
 - Success of the Rollinsford Craft fair and low attendance at the Dover Mill Holiday Open House.
 - Contacting other Artist groups such as the Rollinsford Mill, ArtStream in Rochester, and artists in Durham in order to make connections and gain ideas on how to best reach artists. Maya, Jane and Melissa respectively volunteered to make those connections.
 - A creative economy specialist to address the Chamber of Commerce in a workshop format.



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3. Minutes from the November 9, 2009 meeting were approved.
4. Arts Commission Web Update. Harvey was absent so was unable to give an update. Joyce sent information about the crab sculpture to Harvey for inclusion on the Arts Commission web page. Commission members also discussed creating categories on the artist database/directory for ease in searching for artists based on media or discipline, (eg. music, dance, etc.)
5. Inventory of Dover Artwork Update. CATA has agreed to take on that project. Bob Walker to coordinate with members of CATA. Gail to follow up with Bob and CATA in January and continue discussion at the next Commission meeting.
6. Discussion of juried or other processes for evaluating future donations. Joyce raised the question on what criteria Commission uses to determine endorsement of artwork for City Council approval. Commission members informed her that the Public Art Acquisition and Management Process (PAAMP) exists and has been approved by City Council and City Attorney, Alan Krans. Commission discussed making sure the current copy is on the Commission website and readily available to all members. Commission also discussed the possibility of creating guidelines on how to prepare and complete artwork in a professional manner (eg. framing, matting, etc.). It was also brought to the attention of the Commission the possibility of legal ramifications if a work of art is not recommended to be accepted to the City Council and the city is sued for discrimination. Alan Krans to be contacted to discuss “defamation insurance” and other concerns related to this topic.
7. Election of officers. Discussed the need to elect officers at the January meeting. Joyce to bring a list of members and current terms to the next meeting.
8. Arts Commission matters of interest:
 - Kim discussed a sculpture walk she saw in Florida and the possibility of traveling exhibitions.
 - Melissa mentioned a new art gallery in Dover, across from the City Hall.
 - Further discussion on the percent-for-art program has stalled due to current economic considerations of the city, but goal is to keep art on the city’s “master plan”.
 - Commission members discussed if the Arts Commission should set up a Facebook and Twitter accounts.
 - Discussed contacting Children’s Museum to see if they followed up on recommendations made by Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.