



Meeting Type: Arts Commission
 Meeting Location: McConnell Center Cafeteria
 Meeting Date: **Monday, March 8, 2010**
 Meeting Time: **6:15 pm**

6:25pm. Meeting commenced.

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

Members Absent: Melissa Doucette

1. Minutes from February 8, 2010 meeting were approved.
2. Update on Dover Arts Commission Facebook/Twitter pages. Bob and Joyce met with Mike Gillis to talk about social media. He gave approval to move forward with setting up a Facebook/Twitter account presence for the Dover Arts Commission.

Mr. Gillis encouraged the Arts Commission to have one main administrator for the Facebook/Twitter pages and Bob is willing to serve in that capacity. However, all members may post content to the Dover Arts Commission Facebook page as long as each member has an individual Facebook account.

Mr. Gillis also encouraged posting links to agendas, minutes, and other information of interest concerning the activities of the Arts Commission, as well as information about other Dover area arts-related activities (eg. local gallery opening, band, festival, etc.)

Mr. Gillis expressed concern about how potentially inappropriate content might be handled. The Arts Commission has evaluation criteria (the Public Art Acquisition Management Process) to assess the worthiness of potential acquisitions, and that such criteria could be applied to online content as well. The Arts Commission will plan to review and update the PAAMP to reflect the use of social media and create necessary guidelines.

3. Update on Arts Commission Website. Harvey contacted City and they have updated the site. He relayed that the Commission is limited in how much of the look of the website can be altered. The term limits have also been updated. The Commission members reviewed the website online and found that on the artist database many of the links to artists' websites were not working due an incorrect web programming code.
4. Report by Blue Crab Naming Committee. Saved for April meeting.
5. Update on discussions with other area artist groups.
 No further contact has been made with Artspeak. Jane is awaiting further direction and specific information before proceeding. Jane found a new source of information from the State Council of the Arts through an email called NH EOPPs. Arts Commission members reviewed the site and can sign up to receive this email update. Commission members discussed the possibility of adding content from NH EOPPs to the Arts Commission web page. Jane also shared a newspaper article that said there is a Creative Economy meeting in November 2010 sponsored by a local bank and the Chamber of Commerce. Maya to follow up.



ARTS COMMISSION – AGENDA SUMMARY

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6. Inventory of Dover Artwork Update. Bob followed up and is still trying to get in touch with an Art Teacher from CATA to have it discussed at the next meeting with that teacher's art club.

7. Discussion of how Arts Commission can be useful to the constituencies that it serves.
 - Joyce discussed the idea of holding regular Arts Commission meetings in McConnell Center and hosting special meetings or events at other artists' studios, stores or other areas suitable for that type of event.
 - The Commission discussed and agreed to sending Arts Commission website link out to as many other groups or databases as possible. It was noted that the group Artspider has invited the Arts Commission to be part of their web database.
 - The Commission also discussed hosting a large-scale public event with a working title of "Current Creative Economy Forum". This goal of this forum is to start a discussion on the current state of the creative economy between local artists and representatives of the city, state, and other organizations. The following people would be invited to attend:
 - Director of Dover Main Street
 - Director of Economic Development (Forum panelist)
 - Director of Chamber of Commerce
 - Representative of the Children's Museum (Forum panelist)
 - City Counselors
 - Representative of the Waterfront Committee
 - State Representatives in Dover

 - A subcommittee was formed to help plan and facilitate this event including calling to invite attendees and finding people to speak at the forum. Joyce, Jane, Kim and Harvey agreed to be part of the subcommittee.
 - Discussed designing a mailer and fliers to help promote this event. Jeff tasked with creating these pieces
 - An example of a topic for this forum could be for Dover businesses to tell how impacted they were by the opening of the Children's Museum.
 - This event was unanimously approved by the Commission. The goal is to have this meeting sometime in late April or early May.

 - Gail reported that she has asked several Council members about being the official counselor for the Arts Commission. The Counselor in Gail's ward offered assistance, but would not commit to being the official Counselor. The Commission also discussed getting a city employee to be act on our behalf to get help the Arts Commission if a counselor is not available.



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8. Arts Commission Matters of Interest/New Business

- Some members' terms are about to expire and members need to contact the City to apply for another term.
- Gail heard at the City Council meeting that the Arts Commission has a new member. Joyce to confirm with the City.
- Update on status of Dover Main Street Arts Alive festival. That event is no longer happening as it has in years past. Ideas for this year include an Irish or Celtic festival which would allow artists the same opportunity to display and sell their artwork as afforded them in the Arts Alive festival in the past.
- Picker Building Event on March 6, 2010. Joyce attended the event and thought there was good participation by food vendors and artists. However, she noted that many of the artists were from out of state, especially Maine and there were many more food vendors than artists. Also it was noted that adequate signage was displayed outside the building for this event.
- Joyce also attended the meeting at the State Council for the Arts in Concord, NH, and shared briefly a few takeaways from that meeting.
- Joyce gave a brief update on the fate of the Strand Theater.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.