



## ARTS COMMISSION – MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting  
 Meeting Location: McConnell Center Room 323  
 Meeting Date: 11-6-17  
 Meeting Time: **6:30 p.m.**

### 1. Call to order / Minutes

Present: Linnea Nemeth, Serena Duckrow Fonda, Kim Schuman, Jane Hamor, Amanda Nelson, Yulia Rothenberg, Monica Nagle

Absent: Dennis Shanahan, Allison Castelot, Pam Thyng, Mark Cuddy, Aimee Blessing

Guests: Maria Ayer, Brian Cartier

6:37 call to order

Linnea made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting, Kim seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### 2. Guest - Maria Ayer

Maria went to a couple of mural festivals in MA and was very impressed. She said they are very inspiring and that the murals transform the city and the experience. She would like to see murals in Dover and has been reaching out to businesses and building owners and floating ideas. She would like to make it a community project, but also bring in internationally known artists. She wants to start a group to start organizing volunteers and sponsors. Jane noted that even private businesses still have to go through the city to get approval for murals. Maria quoted a potential budget of at least \$300,000; this would be a grant project. The commission encouraged Maria to continue putting together the project and to come back to the commission with a written proposal.

### 3. Henry Law Mural update (Jane)

The state check came in as well as the check from the teen center @\$4000. We still need @\$4500 to complete the entire project; however, Brian can now begin work. The city will have to work out a payment plan so Brian can be paid in installments instead of one lump sum. Jane approached Optima Bank for funding, which is holding up the funding process; she may be able to get \$1500-\$2000. She also called Dave Bamford to talk about funding, and he is going to help raise the rest of the money. Brian has been working with the kids to come up with designs and is going to come up with a proposed rendering that can be shared with potential sponsors. Kim and Brian will put together a press release so people know about the project.

### 4. HS Committee (Jane, Aimee)

Jane spoke with the theater consultant for the high school. She was sent final draft of technical specifications of theater space and shared with Aimee but hasn't heard back from her. Jane said specs were a bit confusing—the basic needs are there and it is set up so other lighting can be purchased and hung, but is fairly limited. Jane is not sure where the fundraising committee is at



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this point; she will follow up with Aimee to see if her tech person went over the specs. Port Lighting of Portsmouth is providing the lighting; there will be a 2 week training session for staff to learn how to run the lights. The consultant said that the high school should probably hire a tech director because the lighting is complicated; if we purchase more lighting we will definitely need a tech director because it will become even more complicated; however, there is no budget for a tech director at this point

5. The Art Center Update (Monica)

Opening in December in time for the Art Walk. There was an issue with Fosters. They came to do an article but the Art Center wasn't ready. Instead the reporter did an article on the Mother's Day Freedom Project that Monica is heading but focused the story on rape instead of the anti-violence message of the project. Monica is going to use this as a teaching moment for Fosters to know they can't sensationalize artists' stories in this manner.

6. Busking permitting (Monica)

Tabled for next meeting

7. Riverfront project /Our Town grant (Kim/Pam)

Park Committee is very interested in grant opportunities. Kim said she and Jane should follow up with them.

8. Webpage and social media (Communications Committee)

Mike Gillis – Kim

NHPR – Our Town – Yulia

Emails – Jane

Kim has not had a chance to talk to Mike; how do we get them to focus on Dover on their next program? Monica will reach out to them. Everyone on the commission needs a Dover city email.

9. Art Walk –sign up members for monthly table

Amanda and Monica will work on creating images for the table.

Linnea will keep the calendar.

December: Jane

January: Kim? (Linnea as an alternate if Kim can't)

February: ?



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March: ?

Each member of the commission should take a month to be at the table.

#### 10. Fundraising

The Our Town grant ranges from \$75K-\$250K, we have several projects that could go under this grant.

We need to focus on keeping living expenses affordable for artists in Dover. It is becoming increasingly expensive. How can we work with housing coalitions to keep artists in Dover?

#### 11. Outreach reports/ New Business

High Water Benchmark Program, there is money through a UNH project to create a creative project on climate change

#### 12. Vision Planning - Linnea

What do we want to accomplish? Do we create a vision plan/business plan? Focus on five pillars: outreach, community involvement, fundraising, physical and personal resources, public art installations.

Looking at a 2 year approach and a five year approach.

Do we want to have a separate meeting to brainstorm? Should we be looking at the city's master plan, and how what we are doing is going to fit in?

Adjourned: 8:22