



Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
 Meeting Location: McConnell Center room 323
 Meeting Date: 5-7-18
 Meeting Time: 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order 6:35pm Adjourned at: 8:35

IN ATTENDANCE: Matt Huusko (Guest), Kyle Pimentel (Guest, Strafford County), Amanda Stone (Guest, UNH Extension), Aimee Blesing, Yulia Rothenburg, Pamela Thyng, Monica Nagle, Kim Schuman, Jane Hamor, Linnea Nemeth

ABSENT: Dennis Shanahan, Amanda Nelson, Allison Castelot, Serena Duckrow-Fonda, Maria Ayer

2. Minutes

Approved unanimously

3. Citizens Forum – High Water Mark Project

- Kyle Pimental from Strafford County & Amanda Stone from UNH Extension – here to talk about the art project they are working with in Dover on Dover Rising Waters. Chris Parker has been part of the discussion, existing and pending grants may be matched by the City.
- High Water Mark Project: Art Contest – request for proposals, looking for support and possibly fiscal sponsorship from the Arts Commission.
- Started with a Preparing for Climate change initiative that did not come to fruition. Strafford, Rockingham and UNH partnered to apply for funding to continue a new version of the project. Now looking for design proposals from residents, possibly youth and professional adult categories.
- All project applications will be saved and shared with the City for future reference – where can there be potential art installations across the city whether related to water levels or not.
- Yulia mentioned that it could be useful to have locations pre-approved by the city so that works of art could be commissioned or installed at any time. Kyle mentioned that Henry Law Park seems like the most logical placement for the piece.
- December 31st is the deadline for the project due to grant restrictions.
- Additional artwork that may develop after the project could be focused on climate change.
- Jane brought up funding for artist's work, artists will give a budget for the work in the RFP, and be paid with funds raised. Artists will need to know the budget up front due to the nature of an outdoor piece being potentially cost prohibitive.
- Sponsors will be sought via local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce. It was considered that artists may work for 'exposure'. The Arts Commission would not support the project if artists were not going to be compensated.
- Awareness does need to be put into the upkeep of the piece – Whale Wall in Portsmouth was not kept up so became an eyesore.
- Suggestions were given for different school contacts that may be useful.
- Jane directed to the Public Art Application as the first port of call, perhaps an AC member could be no the voting body, the final application would have to come to the AC for approval. Also directed to contact Amanda Nelson re: legalities and contracts.
- Arts Commission agreed to be the Fiscal Agent for the project.
- **This item will be added to the agenda for all ongoing meetings.**



ARTS COMMISSION – MINUTES

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4. Visioning Planning - Linnea

- Linnea reviewed what our next steps are in terms of creating a Master Plan and shared the details with us.
- Added a summary of our Planning Process, Trends and Creative Industry Demographics (Creative Economy), Trends and Creative Industry Demographics, added more structure too goals overview, Recommendation and Implementation Plan (broke down goals into specifics), Arts and Cultural Assets Inventory, started documenting resources.
- Kim and Yulia mentioned that there may be an existing list of the assets that can be included in the Powerpoint.
- Dennis Shanahan needs to see the final draft before we take the plan to the City formally. If we are able to get the grant we have a great starting point. We may need to hire an urban planner to assist with the structure of the arts across the city.

5. Riverfront project /Our Town grant (Kim/Jane)

- Jen Martell – Landscape Architect – spoke to Jane and Kim about the project. 6 locations in the waterfront park that may be good for public art feature. They would like to hold \$100,000 for public art, but they may not have money for the project.
- Yulia suggested that we use the parking garage model – e.g. can we find ways to include artistic elements in pieces that will be there anyway e.g. benches etc so that funding is less prohibitive.
- Aimee suggested looking at the bike racks at UNH which are creative sculptures designed and built by students - <https://sustainableunh.unh.edu/blog/2013/12/functional-public-art-unh-bike-rack-project>
- Pamela will look into other possible grants that may tie in with this project.
- Jane is in conversation with Cassie at NHCA regarding possibilities for funding.
- Main Street could be a logical partner in this. It would be good to include representatives from other organizations so that all viewpoints are being considered along the planning process.
- Jen needs an idea for what might be going in by the end of summer.

6. Henry Law Mural update (Jane, Kim)

- Jane – pool approved the project. Brian has been working with the Teen Center on creating the work, it is fairly close to being done. Need to make a date for the community hand print day.
- **Sunday June 10th, 2-4pm**, looks like the only day that would work. Brian is available that date.
- Press Release needs to go out – images would be useful.
- Kim brought up a Youth Film Festival is on June 10th – we will need to check on whether the Teen Center kids are involved and may have limited availability.
- Jane reviewed the budget with Gary Bannon, the City may be able to help with raising the additional funds, but there are no guarantees yet. We need to go to the Costas family who bought the Fosters building to find out if they will sponsor or donate.



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- Any members who know anyone who may have funds to donate or contribute please put them in touch with us immediately. Sponsors will be listed on a brass plaque, required historic marker will talk about the project.

7. Chestnut St Mural Project Up-date(Jane)

- Jane – has been in touch with Aly Copeland from 1 Wash Project/Site. Pamela offered to give her a tour to give her a sense of the city.

8. HS Committee (Jane, Aimee)

- Jane and Aimee met with a smaller Arts committee including Peter Driscoll and the Superintendent, and are working to advise the school on best practices moving forward in terms of policy and staffing for the new facility.

9. The Art Center (Monica)

The Arts Center is going well, 40+ members presently.

10. NHPR – Our Town (Monica)

11. Webpage and social media (Yulia)

- Jane asked Mike Gillis to include a video from the Americans for the Arts. He will include them from time to time on the website. Yulia will include on FB. Yulia has drafted some wording and images to be included on the website that document our projects.
- Can we use the ArtSpeak model as a website idea for us ultimately. Now that more projects are coming to fruition, can we start to consider again the possibility of a specific website.

12. Art Walk –sign up members for monthly table (*note your volunteer activity*)

Allison – May

Aimee – June

July - Pamela

Yulia suggested having a Power point or an easel with information so that there is something to engage people.

It would be very useful to have an instruction sheet for the Art Walk. Linnea and Yulia will work on this.

13. Outreach reports/ New Business

MONICA NAGLE

- Tri City Mayors commission on homeless community. Mayors assembled a 12 person commission to try to work on the problem and find some solutions.
- Mothers Day Freedom Project is in 93 locations, at the next meeting will be awarding Mayors with the poem.
- The Art of Living Program – Monica just sold the program to the state to implement for homeless support. Engaging people who are homeless in creating art which is then sold and 95% of the proceeds go to the artists.



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- Fundraiser – Calling out the Celts – at Cara in Dover, \$25 ticket filmed by Rick Dumont, August or September 2018, to raise money for implementation of the program.

AIMEE BLESING

- Fringe Seacoast lost The Strand as a venue, may not be able to happen this year.

MATT HUUSKO

- Fundraiser for SOS, would love to have any exposure so they get good attendance. Yulia will share the event on FB.