



ARTS COMMISSION – MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
 Meeting Location: McConnell Center Room 323
 Meeting Date: 5-6-19
 Meeting Time: 6:30

Present: Kim Schuman, Linnea Nemeth, Pam Becker, Cliff Blake, Maria Ayer, Rick Kincaid, Amanda Nelson, Yulia Rothenberg, Mike Lee, Jane Hamor, Dennis Shanahan

Absent: Julie Kirchmer

Guests: Margaret Joyce

Call to order: 6:32

Citizens Forum: Margaret Joyce, Dover Chamber of Commerce / Governor's Award due June 30

Margaret believes that the Chamber and the Arts Commission should be working together more closely. She is interested in applying for grants but may need the city to act as a fiscal agent as the Chamber is a 501(c)(6). The grant money can help with the promotion of the Cochecho Arts Festival and bring other arts into Dover for the Festival. Jane gave Margaret an overview of how the commission works and its place/role in the city, and the work it's done to-date. Margaret would like to see the Arts Commission in an advisory role to the Cochecho Arts Festival. The Arts Commission would like to be involved with city-based creative endeavors earlier on in the process. Margaret would like to expand the Festival beyond music at Henry Law Park and dinner and a movie. Maybe we should schedule a retreat with members from the Arts Commission and the Festival (possibly with Dover Main Street) on a Saturday morning to figure out a bigger plan on how the two can work together. Perhaps Dover Listens could facilitate such a meeting. Linnea would like to form a cultural arts/heritage task force to bring together all of the stakeholders to talk about creating a specific chapter for cultural arts in the city's master visioning plan.

Minutes

Linnea made a motion to approve the minutes, Pam seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Arts Commission Membership Survey

Linnea got feedback from most of the group. A lot want to become more visible in the community—that the community knows who we are. For example, we could host more mixers. There was specific feedback on projects individual members want to take on. We can look at that feedback and come up with a plan on how we want to move forward; for example, Increasing our budget and grant opportunities. We need to create a process for when someone wants to start a project, how does that person bring the project forward—what sort of permissions are needed, etc.?

City Grant – finalize award recipient and press

We need to finalize the award and send out the letters. Pam has drafted acceptance and rejection letters. Aaron got glowing reports from his list of recommendations. He will need to send to the city a W-9, obtain a peddler's license, and a certificate of insurance. We should take promotional pictures with the Art Commission handing him a check. Jane also spoke with Mike Gillis, and he said he is happy to write press releases on our behalf—we just have to give him the pertinent information.

Chestnut St Mural

Jane spoke with Ali about putting a link on their website—Ali apparently expected that the Dover Art Commission was going to put the link on our website, but the city said no. She was able to get CDI to



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put a link on their website. There is going to be some overlap between her press release and our events, but this will be unavoidable. We should speak with the city about setting up a Mail Chimp or Constant Contact account, if possible.

Visioning / Cultural Plan (Linnea)

Linnea has been speaking with Lisa Burke McCoy about other cities in NH and whether they are coming up with a cultural plan and how it is adapted (if it is adapted) into a city plan. She's also researched other cities outside of New Hampshire. She's created a presentation, but she feels she needs to make it clear that this plan is larger than just the Arts Commission, and this is why the city has to recognize that the cultural plan needs its own chapter within the city strategic plan. We need to gather data on the health of nonprofit organizations, etc. We have to get buy-in from the city in order to move forward with our plan.

Pecha Kucha

Cliff will represent Dover at the 7th Arts Advocacy Summit in Concord.

HS Meeting

Dennis has reached out to the board of education to beg them to set up an appointment to talk about policy. (Note: Dover High School will have a solar array that will be the largest solar array in the state of New Hampshire.)

NEFA Grant

We were awarded a \$600 grant to send Jane to the conference.

Arts Commission Budget

We received a budget increase to \$5000 for our next fiscal year.

Sophie's mural

Cliff and Yulia went to the unveiling. The Children's Museum had an excellent event with a large attendance. Senator Watters attended, as did Mayor Weston and other dignitaries. This was the first phase of the project, which was designed to work with kids. The second phase will focus on adults and will circulate an RFP to adult artists.

Public Art Installation at City Hall - extended through May

Jane emailed Amy that it was still there but didn't hear anything back.

Art Walk / Cara's May, June, July August

Jane did the May Art Walk and felt it went well.

June: Pam

July: Maria

August: Amanda

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Americans for the Arts

No updates.

New Business/Outreach

Governor's Arts Award. Margaret is willing to submit the application again on the city's behalf. We will need to update our application. We can probably use some of the information from our letter to Our Hometown.

The Dover Clean-up is this coming Saturday, beginning at 8:00.

Yulia made a motion to adjourn, Rick seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned: 8:10