

**ARTS COMMISSION – MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, Room 323
Meeting Date: January 6, 2020
Meeting Time: 6:30 pm

Present: Cliff Blake, Linnea Nemeth, Yulia Rothenberg, Amanda Nelson, Rick Kincaid, Nancy Vawter, Julia Kirchmer, Mike Lee

Absent: Jane Hamor, Kim Schuman, Dennis Shanahan

Call to Order: 6:34

Citizens Forum

No members of the public.

Minutes

Yulia made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Cliff seconded. Passed unanimously.

Membership

As of January 1, 2020, Maria Ayer has resigned

Welcome Alternate Member Nancy Vawter. Nancy is new to Dover but lived in Portsmouth for years. She comes to us from the Leadership Initiative.

City Arts Grant

Received 2 applications and they are in our Google drive. Jane and Linnea asked a couple of questions and are waiting to hear back from the applicants. Both are quality applications. We are withholding voting until all the information is in and will vote at the February meeting.

Cultural Planning

All of the city surveys have closed, and it is clear that people want to see more recreational arts activities. The biggest takeaway is that people don't know where to find out when and where things are happening. The demographic feedback is going to be very helpful in order how to target certain city demographics. Cliff and Yulia will attend the land use presentation Jan. 14th meeting on behalf of the arts commission. The next meeting Jan. 15th will finalize the goals and objectives.

Literary Laureate

Lisa Burke McCoy has agreed to be a judge, but she wants the Commission to set up a rubric. Cathy Beaudoin was asked to be a judge but turned it down. Yulia suggested we reach out to UNH for a judge. Yulia will make the form fillable so it can be completed online.

Arts Community Brainstorming Session w/ Dover Listens



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The committee will circle back again as many people were out of town for the holidays. They are then going to meet with Dover Listens to discuss the best set up for this brainstorming session and who should be invited.

Art Walk / Jan-March @ Wrong Brain

January/Rick, February/Jane, March/Yulia

We should check in with Jane about whether she can still do February. Rick said most of the people he saw were from Wrong Brain and not many people from outside the organization. Yulia was at One Washington, but with the construction people were not going past the registration table so it was hard to gauge how many people attended. Do we still want to come up with an engagement project at our table? The type of project will depend upon our location and what else might be going on. Mike suggested we start hosting the arts mixers (or some other event) again to bring the arts community together in one location. Should the Commission go nomadic and instead of having a table, visit all of the other tables?

Art Exhibit locations press release

Last time Linnea spoke with Jane, they were going to wait until the new year to coordinate with our grant applications. We should take some pictures of the spaces and give descriptions so applicants will know what the spaces look like. We now have an Instagram account but we need to come up with a plan on how to populate our account.

Community Performing Arts Theatre Consultant Update

Jane had not heard anything back from the school board. If she hasn't heard anything soon, she will get in touch with our consultant directly.

New Business/Outreach

Kostis family is looking to do a mural on their new apartment building (Foster's building). They want to incorporate something around the history of the newspaper but are interested in hearing ideas from the Commission.

Liberty Mutual donated a painting to the Woodman Museum on December 31, 2019.

Follow up on other art projects, dragonfly sculpture, firehouse sculpture:

Linnea has reached out to some of the other projects, but she hasn't heard back from them.

Planning board reached out to Linnea about ways artwork can be added to City Hall. She asked them for a list of locations and a budget. They are also looking for someone who can touch up the paint on some of the historic artwork.

Garrison Players are doing *Little Women* in the spring and are looking for actresses. They are also doing *Lost in Yonkers* and need two teenage boys.

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Cliff will be attending the Tourism Meeting tomorrow. The Cochecho Arts Festival had a meeting in December that was canceled and are trying to reschedule.

Yulia is still working to organize additional Tiny Libraries around town.

Wayfinding—the city needs some way of creating a wayfinding plan so people can find things in Dover, particularly in light of the 400th anniversary coming up. We should seriously start looking at this—perhaps there are grants we can apply for. Linnea will reach out to the city to find out where the wayfinding plans are sitting and what would be our next steps.

Julia is working with Wrong Brain artists for the next children's exhibit

Mike made a motion to adjourn, and Yulia seconded. Passed unanimously.

Adjourned: 7:42