



**City Arts & Culture Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 6:30 pm**  
**Executive Meeting Room, City Hall, 111 North Main St., Bristol, CT**

**ATTENDEES:** Lindsay Vigue, Kim Villanti, Juliet Norton, Mark Walerysiak,  
Andrea Adams, Bill Stortz  
**ABSENT:** Samantha Cloutier  
**COUNCIL LIAISON:** Greg Hahn

- I. The City Arts & Culture Commission was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chair Lindsay Vigue.
- II. Public Participation - There was no public participation.
- III. Approval of Minutes

**Bill Stortz made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 15, 2020, seconded by Juliet Norton. All present voted in favor and the minutes were accepted.**

- IV. Carousel Museum Requests

**#1. Mardi Gras Sponsorship:**

Lindsay described the breakdown of the artists and entertainers. Andy commented that not all the artists are from Bristol. There was general discussion of why the commission would support various activities and the purpose along with the purpose and aims of the commission. One possibility is to be a sponsor at existing events where the commission has representation and their banner is displayed. There was discussion about the Commission's purpose and the impact of the activities they pursue and support.

One purpose is to make an impact and it can be done in various ways.

- Public Art
- To support some activities that would bring people to Bristol
- Sponsorships of an arts related activity

Lindsay reviewed the City Arts & Culture statement which is open-ended and does not provide clear parameters and these need to be made clearer.

She again reviewed the Mardi Gras request list. Supporting four of the artists on the list would come to \$1200. Greg suggested considering requests from organizations could be limited to one per year for example. Requests should be considered on a case-by-case basis if they relate to the commission's mission.

**Juliet Norton made a motion to support the Carousel Museum Mardi Gras arts projects in the amount of \$1200. Bill Stortz seconded the motion. Votes taken: Kim Villanti-no; Lindsay Vigue-yes; Andrea Adams-yes; Mark Walerysiak-no; Juliet Norton-yes; Bill Stortz-yes. Motion passed.**

**#2. Carousel Museum Dance Series request**

**Juliet Norton made a motion to support the Music and Dance Series, seconded by Kim Villanti. There were six NO votes. Motion does not pass.**

Lindsay proposed the budget be reviewed at the beginning of the next fiscal year with certain amounts going to support various different projects.

#### V. Webster Bank Mural

Considerations:

- Downtown Vision – meeting with Justin Malley and the Mayor
- Discuss Image – does the commission provide input to the artist

Bill Stortz excused himself at 7:30 p.m.

Kim discussed the importance of the presentation of the concept and emphasized that this has to be done right. Lindsay also mentioned the point that in this project who is the entity that has the creative control or approves the design. We understood it was to be the commission but in fact for this project there are several entities: BDA (ECD), Roberts Foundation, and Webster Bank.

The concept in general was discussed. There was discussion about what questions may be asked during the presentation and to be prepared to address them, especially in relation to other arts projects which currently exist or may be planned. The artist can be contacted for a revision of his concept with several different versions requested. Discussion. Previously some direction was given but it was somewhat limited. As a commission, it's okay to provide more direction and expectations. The ideas could be given with some parameters and then the actual image would be interpreted by the artist using those guidelines. At least one option could be with bright colors. Corey should be invited for concept review.

The commission needs to keep track of the timeline for this project.

- Invite Corey to a meeting next month
- Meeting with stakeholders for approval (special meeting)
- Additional discussion about concepts with parameters to be given to Corey prior to the meeting and perhaps to bring at least one design to the meeting.
- A special meeting is tentatively planned for Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> in the Executive Meeting Room (to be confirmed). Lindsay will advise Samantha and Bill of this special meeting date.

#### VI. Old Business

- Greg will check with Dawn Nielsen to see if anything is being asked of the Commission for this coming year's Farmer's Market.
- What did the commission do last year that they would or would not do again?
- It would be great to have a list of music organizations in Bristol or identifying different groups.
- Have a list of what is happening which pertain to the arts. This will be on next month's agenda.

#### VII. New Business

- Greg mentioned that Ken Ferris is retiring. How could he be honored at his last concert? Greg will provide the date of the concert.
- The Commission would like to be involved in the ACE awards.

#### VIII. Adjournment

Andrea Adams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m., seconded by Kim Villanti. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Cooper, Recording Secretary