



**City Arts & Culture Commission
Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 15, 2019, 6:30 pm
Executive Meeting Room, City Hall, 111 North Main St., Bristol, CT**

ATTENDEES: Lindsay Vigue, Kim Villanti, Juliet Norton, Bill Stortz,
Andrea Adams, Mark Walerysiak
ABSENT: Samantha Cloutier
COUNCIL LIAISON: Greg Hahn
GUEST: Sarah Larson, Bristol Parks & Recreation Department

I. The City Arts & Culture Commission was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chair Lindsay Vigue.

III. Approval of Minutes

Bill Stortz made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of April 17, 2019, seconded by Andrea Adams. All voted in favor and the minutes were accepted.

II. Public Participation

Sarah Larson from City of Bristol Parks and Recreation Department spoke about the proposed public art project. The locations should be good for viewing by local residents and for visitors to Bristol. She prepared some potential ideas and possible spaces and reviewed each of these with the committee.

1) The Parks Department are currently beautifying the Federal Hill Playground. There are 2 turtles there and one at Brackett Park which need to be painted.

2) There is a building a Page Park which is slated to be painted in July and has the funding for this in the current color (green). Sarah's idea is to paint a history timeline of Bristol. A lot of disc golfers come to Bristol from out of town so this building is seen by visitors to Bristol.

3) Outfield fence of Muzzy Field (Jacobs and Dutton Ave.). This area is seen by visitors. One idea is to section it off and do a community art project. The public could submit ideas. This way people can leave their mark on Bristol.

4) Skate Park at Rockwell. A painting project may connect this to the rest of the park and may reduce vandalism.

5) The Retaining wall in Rockwell. A painting of a flag is just an idea – it could be something interactive. This wall is often vandalized by paint. See the handout.

These projects could be done in order of what is feasible. The Parks Department is looking at a partnership with the Arts Commission. Kim Villanti asked that Sarah provide some idea of what they would be looking for financially. She also suggested that they could roll out the projects over the course of at least a year – start some this summer and then plan for the future. She suggested that one that could be done this summer would be the skate park. Lindsay added that it could also be an event at the same time.

Mark commented to keep to a more historic theme on any historic area, such as the Muzzy Field fence – not to do anything "off the wall."

Kim asked about doing some painting at Page Park pool. Sarah said that they will be doing some construction beginning August 20. There will be murals inside the building at the pool as part of the renovation.

Various ideas were discussed for some of the images in the places in her list. Lindsay asked Sarah to please come back to them with some idea of the costs involved. This subject will be discussed again in June.

Kim said that they should do an RFP for the mural project and then they can start talking to the artists.

IV. Parks Department Public Art Collaboration

There was general discussion over the Public Art projects that Sarah brought forward. Kim wondered could the turtles be moved, painted as part of the June public art and then put back? Regarding the "green monster" – the large storage building at Page Park – the committee needs to let the Park Department know if and when it could be done because if it is not done through the commission then the Parks Department will be painting it green.

For this summer: Turtles, traffic boxes, skate park, downtown mural – are the planned and possible projects.

Kim had an idea for the "green monster" – for the painting to blend in with the area – like trees with small woodland creatures for example.

V. Traffic Box Art

Mark will write descriptions of the boxes. Julie will obtain hi-res versions of the pictures. The Purchase Order will be placed with Bristol Signart and they will take care of it (after the goslings have hatched and are gone).

VI. Music in the Park collaboration for June

There was discussion about the possible participation for individual artists rather than Ginger's class. Kim spoke about digital painting and other ideas were discussed and considered. Lindsay said that \$500 - \$1000 has been budgeted for this event. The committee is considering A) the turtles if possible, and B) something interactive.

Kim Villanti made a motion to allocate \$500 - \$1000 for either painting the turtles or if not available (cannot be moved) they use the funds to hire an artist to create a live piece of art. Andrea Adams seconded the motion, all present voted in favor and the motion was passed.

VII. Main Street Mural

Lindsay reported that there are three mural artists they are looking at. She would like to begin to make contact with them and to see how they work. Kim will put together an RFP. This will detail what the project will entail. Lindsay said there are two contacts at Webster Bank. She will discuss with them what is needed at their end.

Lindsay also said that in discussions with the Mayor they may be able to obtain additional funding for this project through a foundation. The ground at the site is not level and this will add to the cost of equipment needed.

VIII. Update on Crosswalk Art

Lindsay reported that they cannot paint between the lines so for now they should put this project on hold. Perhaps in future this could be done in the parks but the subject is tabled for now.

IX. Wood Carving Art

Julie spoke about the tree trunks being cut down but the trees she saw being cut down on the boulevard have been cut down completely already. The boulevard is historic and everything there has to go through the veterans council. However, other trees may be cut down in other parts of the park system.

Bill Stortz excused himself from the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

X. Old Business

Lindsay met with Main Street Pint & Plate regarding the table decorations for the "after" Mike Reiss event. They will have displays on a screen and the cutout. She discussed with them the "Simpsons" refreshments.

For the refreshments at the event: Sam will take care of and will contact the library for the latest count of attendees and then order based on the expected attendance. Setup time and items needed were discussed. The library will provide the coffee and tea. Lindsay will provide a laptop.

Greg Hahn joined the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

XI. New Business

There was no new business.

XII. Adjournment

Andrea Adams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m., seconded by Kim Villanti. All present voted in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Cooper,
Recording Secretary