

Town Arts Committee
Minutes - 7/17/12

Members present: Kate Anderson (Chair) Mark Burke, Doug Cox (recorder pro-temp), Stephen Dybas, Sarah Rice, Kathryn Turnas. Alan Steinberg, guest.

1. It was confirmed that the **meeting was warned**.
2. Minutes of June 5 and June 19 meetings not being available, no action was taken. We agreed that the chair will assign recording duties on a rotating basis.
3. We welcomed newly appointed TAC member Stephen Dybas who is a photographer, director of Insight Photography, and a member of the Vermont Center for Photography.
4. Sarah reported that she and Bob Havens led the arts contingent in the Brattleboro July 4 parade carrying a banner, now in the Hanna Cosman room, designed by Cassandra Anderson and produced by Doug Cox. Doug followed with a marching and pedaling string quartet. Consideration will be given later to asking again for an arts theme to lead the 2013 parade.
5. Sarah read from a report from Ken Schneck on the Concrete Quilt project. The painting day was documented in an 8.5 minutes video that will air on BCTV this week and is available at <http://cvp.telvue.com/player?id=T01304&video=61172>. A second painting day is being planned
6. Alan Steinberg spoke of his vision on Brattleboro Clay Works relocating to the first floor of the Archery Building which the Town has opened for use and renovation proposals. The Archery Building with handicap accessibility would allow BCW to qualify as a VT State Craft Center. The Craft Centers, as currently defined, can be multi-location, multi-media, and include education as well as display and sales. This concept might fit with the Arts District under study as part of the two-year NEA grant project. The second floor could be a group gallery such as the former Windham Art Gallery, and the exterior area could be a sculpture park, perhaps managed by BMAC.

We encouraged Alan to develop his plan. TAC noted that the current Town application deadline of September 12 is difficult for creative proposals that may not have funding sources in hand. Doug will draft a letter to this effect to be circulated via email to TAC for consideration.

TAC is expected to be part of the Archery Building proposal selection process. At present the chair is our representative in that process.

7. The June 5 proposal from TAC to commission local sculptural bike racks as part of the Union Station Project is under consideration.

8. Kate went over the content and process of the “Our Town” NEA grant awarded to the Town of Brattleboro and the Arts Council of Windham County. Doug will attach documents from the application to these minutes. Kate will continue representing TAC in the process as part of the Grant Administration Team. It does not appear TAC will have to take any actions regarding the Project till the Public Art phase begins, perhaps in the spring.
9. Mollie Burk has been selected to decorate the mural wall at the Transportation Center. The process has been complicated by the retirement of all those on the Mural Committee which has overseen the Mural project so far. Things should proceed now.
10. This pointed up the need to have a central repository of TAC policies and forms for future TAC use. This will be on the agenda for our next meeting.
11. All TAC members are invited to take part in a Town Committee training session on August 9. Kate, Katherine, Sarah and Steve expect to take part.
12. Kate encouraged all TAC members to familiarize themselves with the close-to-final draft of the Town Plan as it moves to public hearing phase. It is available at http://www.brattleboro.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={1EC02CDD-2686-40A0-8FB4-25A13480400B}&DE={CFEEF909-876A-43B4-B427-AA8DA6F28410}

Next meetings Tuesday, August 21 and September 18, 4:00 pm, Hanna Cosman room.
Respectfully submitted,
Doug Cox