

Town Arts Committee

8/8/2017 Minutes (Approved 9/12/17)

Members Present: Dale Joy, Joel Kaemmerlen, Patrick Kitzmiller, and Sarah Freeman

Guests: Marsha Bard

1. **Meeting called to order at 4:08pm**
 - a) Quorum: (4) Present

2. **First Order:** Approve minutes form 7/11/2017
 - a) Motion to approve by Joel Kaemmerlen, Seconded by Dale Joy
 1. Approved 4-0-0

3. **Public Participation:**
 - a) Marsh Bard: Raised questions about the lack of visible public art in Brattleboro. The town has a reputation of arts and culture, but is not readily evident.
 1. She would like greater support for large art projects and gatherings.
 2. Believes art projects struggle to gain a proper permissions and approvals.
 3. She and members from the Windham Arts Council are planning a large gathering to garner support for public art and artists.
 - b) There was much discussion with the committee

4. **Review of Pending Projects:**
 - a) The committee discussed and shared information about
 1. The potential Mural in Harmony Lot
 2. The potential mural project in the High/Grove St lot and the need to protect and honor the existing mural currently located there. It was noted that the current mural has sustained some damage due to exposure to weather and there was discussion about options for preserving it including moving it to a more protected location. It was also noted that it is important to attain the input and aid of those who created the existing mural.

5. **Communication with Artists:**
 - a) From Joel -
 1. The members of the Arts Committee are relatively new to the positions and it is important to establish ourselves and our desire to get people involved and reaffirm our commitment to creating more opportunities for art in Brattleboro.

b) From Sarah -

1. The question of “Web Presence”. The Town Arts Committee has a single page on the town website and a contact email that has to be filtered through the town offices before it reaches the members of the committee.
2. Is there a better method of communication between artists in the community and the TAC?
3. Is there a central listing of local artists and current projects?
4. If adding material/info to our web page, what material is ideal?

c) From Marsha -

1. Discussed her involvement with the Windham Arts Council and an upcoming event/potluck that includes a potential survey of artists and community members.
2. Discussed possibility of mimicking the survey idea with flyers to get community input about potential public art projects and to gauge community interest.

d) Create a survey to gauge interest in public art

1. Motion to approve survey by Sarah Freeman, seconded by Joel Kaemmerlen.
 - a) Approved 4-0-0

6. **Presentation of future Projects to Select Board:**

- a) There was discussion about a number of studies that concluded the financial benefits of public art and the value to the town.
- b) Importance of art and how it relates to the town’s culture and identity.

7. **Motion to adjourn: 5:31pm**

- a) Motion to adjourn by Joel Kaemmerlen, seconded by Sarah Freeman
 1. Approved 4-0-0