



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Arts, Culture & Tourism Commission

December 5, 2023 at 6pm

Town Hall

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:04pm.

In attendance: Debra Smith, Pam Myers-Morgan, Ben Buckley, Justin Glazebrook, Ben Reeder, Morgan Santos & Aimee Gigandet. Missing: Shannon Culpepper
Guests: Kris Carmichael & Suzanne Petersen

1. Public Forum

New Market Historical Society Focus Group Discussion- Kris Carmichael & Pam- Pam and Kris conducted Focus Group discussion regarding the topics of interest for the 300th Anniversary book they are compiling.

2. Acceptance of Minutes of 11/6/23

Debra updated minutes as per comments received from Pam. Morgan made a motion to accept revised minutes from 11/6; Ben R. seconded motion. Minutes accepted unanimously.

3. Project Updates

a. AC&T Video Final- Community Release & Fundraising Plan

Thank You Shannon for helping finish the video. Debra talked to Tim Cremmen, Communications Manager, about options for distributing video. It can be sent out to everyone via email list to town newsletter subscribers.

Discussion followed on the following topics:

How do we want to get this used? Should it be used for funding opportunities, general promo, asking for community engagement, etc.? Video to guide people to stay involved? Get them to follow us on social media and be engaged on upcoming projects? Video is on YouTube right now, but not being publicized.

Pam noted that the video is already dated; our only link to our site is just a subpage on the website. Should we push for our own area or create a town bulletin board? Aimee noted the Recreation Dept has tried this earlier, but didn't work because it was a lot of upkeep.

Deb recommended that we hold the video until February... “art in the heart”; announce Willey House is coming, it’s in the heart of Newmarket, go ahead and do an online auction. We have the art already. All agreed.

Social media content will be put out all the way through October when the Willey House Main Street Park is targeted to be finished.

Morgan suggested selling “bricks” off of that road area and putting people’s names on them as a fundraising effort e.g., buy a brick. Takeaway for all was to solicit more pieces of art, come up with more video ideas, and social media content.

b. Willey House Park Update

LRAC Grant Application Presented by Suzanne Petersen & Ben B. Lamprey River Advisory Committee (LRAC) advised the Commission that “We have money and we want to share it.”

Suzanne talked about how arts could get funded through community grants; max is \$7500 per project; one time award. The point of the grant request to LRAC is to say, “We have a project. Here’s what we are committed to do. What do you think?” Ben & Debra to work on grant application in the next 30 days with Suzanne’s guidance. Suzanne projected a quick LRAC decision with reasonable estimate being February 2024.

Suzanne suggested getting Town Engineer involved to get education resources there; they are already there and are ripe for the picking. Pam also suggested getting the Schanda Park Riverfront Committee involved too.

Committee needs to see that we have (1) artist lined up (2) processes in place (3) mural doesn’t have to be ready to go (4) timelines created

NH State Arts Council Award Package & Management Submitted 12/1/23
Town Manager has original copy

4) New Business

- a) Community Center Grant-** Aimee reported that the Town has applied for a \$1 million grant to complete the final phase of the Community Center. It’s a highly competitive field and decision is expected in February. All agreed it would be great for us to be able to use that space for events if we get the grant.
- b) Concert Series- Since** Kennebunk Savings is leaving downtown as they were a major sponsor of many community events. Rec. Department is re-thinking the concert series. Debra suggested simplifying series to only one per month and move to Rec Dept outdoor stage to promote larger gathering. Bank previously funded \$1500 of the Arts in the Park series so funding will need to be scouted out.
- c) Donor Mailing List-** Debra asked for volunteer to create an Excel file of previous AC&T raffle donors. Pam volunteered.

Motion to adjourn at 7:37pm accepted.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 2, 2024.

Respectfully submitted, Benjamin Buckley