



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Arts, Culture & Tourism Commission

May 2, 2023 at 6:00pm

Town Hall

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:06pm.

In attendance: Debra Smith, Pam Myers-Morgan, Ben Buckley, Morgan Santos, Aimee Gigandet, Joshua Skovlund (on Zoom) and Tim Cremmen Town Communication Manager

Public Forum

- Ben Reeder, Paula Scavone and Alex Leith were visiting from the public.

New Business

- Debra explained that during a meeting with the Town Manager Office it was made clear that we are allowed to have 7 members including the Town Council rep. But Debra made the case that we need to be 7 members PLUS the rep. A motion will need to be made to Town Council to expand our numbers if we are to include all interested parties. Ben Reeder's membership application will be confirmed this week; Paula and Alex will be applying this week.
 - Discussion ensued about whether to ask the Town to expand our number to 9
 - A suggestion was made to maybe keep our current number and have alternates designated
 - Tim made the point that increasing our number increases the number needed for a quorum
 - Debra made a motion to petition the Town for 2 alternates. Ben B. seconded the motion. Motion was passed.
- Pam moved to accept the minutes from the April 11, 2023, meeting and Morgan seconded. Motion was passed.
- Debra met with John Herman and he said that the Wentworth Cheswill statue is slated to be in place by 2027 for the 300th and that \$10,000 has been raised so far. The former Arbor Park is the current proposed location. Both bronze and stone are under consideration. Dedication will be in 2023. Model of the statue was presented.
- Also, John Herman asked if we had interest in something called a Witch's Paddle – paddle boarding at the river in October. John is also Chair of the New

Hampshire Film Festival, which takes place in Portsmouth. No conflicts with event noted.

- Great Bay Rotary invited us to an event in Durham on June 17, the same day as the Newmarket Garden tour so we will pass on the Durham event.
- Mural Mania in Montreal was discussed. It takes place in June. Various examples of murals and mural events were discussed. Morgan suggested we investigate Dennis Moffatt's painting in South Kingstown, RI.

Old Business

- Arts in the Park
 - Morgan said that she and Ben have worked up verbiage for approaching businesses as well as a list of restaurants to be approached.
 - The proposal is to have a featured photograph on a postcard for each event which offers a 10% discount for participating Newmarket Restaurants during the 8 days following the event. The featured photograph will be taken at the previous week's event.
 - The promotional campaign will coincide with the 5 Tuesday concerts this summer (2nd Tuesday, with a few gaps.)
 - 1st concert is June 27, 2023.
 - Printing can be done at Town Hall (2-sided color postcard.)
 - Discussion of when we need to know if restaurants are willing to participate began. Morgan and Ben will begin soliciting restaurants now and unless none are interested, the project will go forward.
- Library Grant
 - NH Art for Community Engagement Grant deadline is July 7th.
 - Work needs to be completed between October 2023 and November 2024
 - Grant is focused on how community is engaged in the activity as opposed to the final project
 - Much discussion ensued about whether this project works for this grant
 - Debra met with NH Commission on the Arts prep committee.
 - Project would shift to begin in October 2023
 - Instead of panels, heat applied stickers could go up in the library panels
 - Grant award is \$1000 to \$6000
 - How do we engage the community in the process to be further discussed with new Librarian.
- Arts, Culture & Tourism Commission video – Tim Cremmen and Josh Skovlund
 - Working Title – Inside the Arts, Culture & Tourism Commission
 - Follow on video will detail the 5-Year Plan using video grabbed during upcoming events
 - Goal of the video is to interview all the members to introduce them to the town, using various locations as backgrounds to provide a mini-tour of Newmarket.
 - Target date for completion is June 15.

- Videos will be useful in helping to justify the inclusion of Arts and Culture in the Town
- Locations for each interview were assigned
- Members should email Tim and Josh with availability (no Tuesdays or Wednesdays.) Each member should contact Tim & Josh this week to schedule a 45-minute interview block in May.

Project Updates

- Pocket Park
 - 8 framed panels will be affixed to the clean and painted wall
 - DPW will be installing the panels
 - Friday, June 16, 2023 will be the Grand Opening
 - First exhibit is photography by Martin Culpepper
 - Second exhibit will be Alex Leith
 - Both will be printed at the same time, one on either side.
 - Small galleries are being made by Durham Great Bay Rotary and small pieces will be inside
 - 3 Brushketeers have been approached about painting the Pocket Park box
 - Aimee's art teachers will paint the one at the Rec
 - Alex will be painting the large utility box
 - DPW will power wash the wall
 - May 26 is Day of Caring and is the tentative day to paint the wall at 4pm
 - Rocks will be delivered week of May 22. Bucket of rocks also will be delivered to Rec and Library for kids to seed our Rock Garden.
 - Bench and picnic table will be added
 - Memorial plaque will be a magnet on the phone box. Pam will send suggested verbiage to Debra this week.
 - Jon Kiper was approached by Deb about offering food and drink menu for the event. There is a liquor license that covers the park.
 - Riverworks will also be approached by Debra about offering food
 - Will also have a table with paint so people can paint rocks to add to the new rock garden
 - Total budget for the park renovation is \$2873.10 - \$800 has been pledged by Parks & Rec, \$1000 is coming from DPW, AC&T is covering \$1080. Commission approved the budget and the \$100 shortfall will be made up by passing the bucket at unveiling. Motion made to approve project budget and unanimously approved.
- Calendar
 - Debra and Ben will meet to pull numbers about the calendar
 - Discussion was had around whether or not to pursue the project
- Morgan suggested we have two meetings in July – one for regular business and one dedicated to a discussion of fundraising. Commission approved.

New Business

- Debra brought forward the spreadsheet with tasks and asked everyone to choose their activities.
- Pam is staying with the Walking Tour
- Morgan and Ben are handling the Arts in the Park
- Josh is on the video
- Ben Reeder is lead on photo calendar
- Backyard Bash – Debra is going to create a calendar for people to sign up for shifts. Debra is taking the lead
- Artist Among Us was tabled until the next meeting. Maybe it becomes a Main Street event in September.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Our next meeting will be held on June13, 2023 at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Myers-Morgan