



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

**ATTENDEES:** Lindsay Vigue, Kim Villanti, Juliet Norton, Sam Cloutier, Bill Stortz,  
Andrea Adams, Mark Walerysiak

**ABSENT:** - - -

**COUNCIL LIAISON:** Greg Hahn

**STAFF:** Mayor Zoppo-Sassu  
Dawn Nielsen, Marketing & P.R. Specialist

I. The City Arts & Culture Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Lindsay Vigue.

II. Public Participation

Carol Denehy, 252 Fern Hill Rd. Carol said she wants to visit all commissions to be better informed on the City and thanked everyone for volunteering to be on the commission.

Dawn Nielsen introduced herself and spoke about the Home Show and meeting with the Bristol Blues manager Brian Rooney. They discussed the painting of the outfield advertisements. He can be reached at [gm@bristolbluesbaseball.com](mailto:gm@bristolbluesbaseball.com) and she also has his telephone number.

The Mayor, Dawn, and Justin Malley had a meeting about the Farmer's Market and Dawn asked the Commission if they would be interested in arranging for the music for the market. The Mayor added that the performers should be compensated. The Commission can also have a table at the market. Besides the regular season, there will also be a market the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving.

III. Welcome to the Commission

The new commission members, Andrea Adams and Mark Walerysiak, were welcomed to the commission.

IV. Discussion of 2018-19 updated budget and projects

Lindsay said that they would not be doing the mural project this year as there has been problems obtaining the space discussed.

A. CACC assistance to existing organizations and events:

1. Board of Education Annual Art Show

This event is on May 7. The commission can be a sponsor for the event. The suggested amount is \$500. Greg Hahn added that they want to have healthy snacks and this sponsorship would be to provide this. This may be increased to support some music. General support was preferred instead of a prize or gift certificate as they do not want to single anyone out. Kim emphasized that they need to put together a formal request for funds as they have discussed before. Kim and Andy will work on this. Lindsay will contact Samantha from the Board of Education.

The budget was reviewed – current and future. There was discussion about applying for grants and next year having input to the budget process where they may put in a budget request.

2. Duck Race Festival

Lindsay has met with the Chamber about the Duck Race. The race area will be extended to the lot across from O'Brien's Funeral Home. They will have a live art piece and live music. Lindsay had an idea for a band that marches around the area.

**Samantha Cloutier made a motion to approve \$2,000 for the Duck Race Festival. Andrea Adams seconded the motion, all voted in favor and the motion was passed.**

3. Veteran's Council Memorial Day Procession

Lindsay was not sure that this event fits with our parameters but the request was only for \$250. Kim commented that they have to be careful not to set a precedent. Mark suggested they come up with a priority list of projects. Kim emphasized the need to make guidelines. Mayor Zoppo-Sassu said that the City supports the Memorial Day procession and did not think there is an arts or music component to it.

Kim mentioned having a space for "Arts by Veterans" which is more in line with what the commission supports. She suggested inviting them to a meeting in the future.

4. Bristol Parks Department Summer Concert Series Kickoff

The Parks Department liked what the commission did last year. The first concert is June 25 and the rain date is the 26<sup>th</sup>. They would like the commission to do the same thing as last year. As far as the amount of funds to allocate for this event, this can be discussed at a later date. The suggested support on this event: \$500 - \$1,000. Last year included an interactive paint wall and live art. Kim asked if they could commission an artist to do a piece that can be used later on – there was an artist at Rockwell several years ago using spray paint. Andy will find out.

B. CACC Projects:

1. Mike Reiss Event at Bristol Public Library

Recommendation: Allot \$600. A reception can be done at the library. There would be a talk and presentation if the commission is able to obtain Mike for a desired date. Another option would be to partner with Main Street Pint & Plate one evening afterwards. This should be in the spring or early summer. Lindsay has contacted the library and the best date they have is May 23. Mike's speaking fee is \$200 but he would be travelling and asked for travel expenses (train). The remainder of the recommended expense is for food and drink. This event would also supply the commission with good P.R.

**Kim Villanti made a motion to allocate \$600 to the Mike Reiss event. Samantha Cloutier seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.**

This will be the commission's event and the library will help to promote. May 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the event date.

2. Dear Bristol: A Postcard Series

Lindsay provided a review of this project (traffic box wraps). The first one would be at Riverside and Main St. Each one will have a different background color. A Bristol resident would write the postcards. The wraps can be done early April – early May. The locations of all the boxes to be done was reviewed. Locations are:

- Riverside and Main – was painted but was damaged and replaced
- North Main and School (by Imagine Nation) – painting unfinished
- Main and School (by old Bristol Press building)
- Brackett Park on North Main
- Outside City Hall on North Main
- North Main and Center

Bill Stortz excused himself from the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

The commission needs to decide which Bristol residents would write the postcards.

**Samantha Cloutier made a motion to approve \$3,000 for the six (6) downtown traffic box wraps. Mark Walerysiak seconded the motion. Discussion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.**

3. Crosswalk Art Project

This would be a call to artists or approach some of the mural artists that the commission was interested in. It would involve coordination with Public Works department, the Police and perhaps the State if any crossing is on a State road. Possible locations were discussed. Greg mentioned that the coordination with the Police may incur extra costs.

At this point it is difficult to assign a dollar amount to this project. Greg said that this may be brought up at a City Council meeting with examples of what the commission would like to do. He will discuss with the Mayor.

4. Farmer's Market

This will be discussed at next months' meeting. The BDA will fund and the Commission will arrange for musicians.

5. Mural

There was general discussion about a mural and call to artists, the mural criteria and interview questions. The commission members should look at other possible locations for a mural.

V. Adjournment

Kim Villanti made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Samantha Cloutier seconded the motion, all voted in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Cooper  
Recording Secretary