



**City Arts & Culture Commission
Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 6:30 pm
Staff Lounge, Second Floor, Bristol City Hall
111 North Main St., Bristol, CT**

ATTENDEES: Lindsay Vigue, Kim Villanti, Juliet Norton,
Andrea Adams, Samantha Buonafede, Bill Stortz, Mark Walerysiak
ABSENT: - - -
COUNCIL LIAISON: Greg Hahn

- I. The City Arts & Culture Commission was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Chair Lindsay Vigue.
- II. Public Participation – There was no public participation.
- III. Approval of Minutes

Bill Stortz made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 15, 2020, seconded by Andrea Adams. All present voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

- IV. Discussion of Plaque for the Mural
 - Names should include all major contributors. The primary contributors then something like "other citizen contributors of Bristol" or words to that effect. Correction on Sam's copy to "Chris Ziogas."
 - Which logos to include – any besides the Arts & Culture? If including Webster Bank they would have to be consulted.
 - Corey's name should be "Artist Corey Pane" or "by Artist Corey Pane"
 - A & E Engraving was recommended as one source to make the plaque. Different styles were discussed and several examples were forwarded to committee members.
 - Location: Lindsay suggested placing the plaque on the wall facing Main St. on the corner of the mural.
 - Title: Will there be a name for the mural?
 - Timing: It was suggested to get the plaque up swiftly so that the committee could have an unveiling. Greg suggested that if the car show and chalk event take place it could be around September 26. Andy reported that Harley Graime is researching with the Health Department if the car show can be held.
 - Thank you notes: Greg is donating hand crafted thank you notes for the contributors.
 - Date of Mural: Julie recommended that the year should be included e.g., "completed August 2020" or the date of the dedication. Kim said this could be placed next to the artist's name.
 - Cost: Besides the cost of the plaque will be the cost of the installation and permission will be needed for the proposed location.

Additional comments: Will there be an explanation of the concept? Greg will prepare a couple of versions – one with an explanation and one minimal without. Cost may be a factor. Kim suggested they may need to consider a free-standing sign instead. Kim has discussed the symbolism on Facebook. She will forward the information to Greg.

Lindsay said that a vote is needed for the budget and suggested a max budget of \$1,000 just to give some leeway.

Bill Stortz made a motion to allocate a max of \$1,000 for the plaque. Andy Adams seconded the motion, all present voted in favor and the motion passed.

Lindsay will check with Bristol Sign Art, A & E, and the City's sign making department.

V. Discussion of Wood Carving

A tree was cut on South Street because it was in the power lines but Eversource is waiting to remove to give the commission time to decide if they want to do a project with it by a local artist. Lindsay has sent out a preliminary request to a local carver. This artist could only go up 12 feet.

The subject was discussed (nature themed) and other artists can be researched as well. The approximate cost for a 12 foot carving would be around \$2,500. Black Bear Auto could be asked who they used for the bears at their shop. Greg suggested to do the project soon and he will approach banks for donations. If it is an eagle, for example, this would be great for the boulevard and the veteran theme.

There will be a special meeting in the beginning of September for interviews.

Bill Stortz excused himself from the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Mark emphasized to be sure to work with the Veteran's community although the tree is actually on South St. Discussion.

VI. Chalk Event Update

This is expected to be on September 26 as long as the car show is held.

Greg and Andy have a list of items to do. Harley Graime and Andy have taken care of many items. Andy provided a summary of what has been arranged already. Hope Street will be closed for the event.

VII. Old Business

Trolley: This would be a potential sculpture piece. Julie has contacted the Trolley Museum. They have three Bristol cars. Two are of wood and one is steel. They would give us the steel one but it is in bad shape and would have to be rebuilt. The wood ones would not last unless they are protected in some way. She has a photo of the better wood one and has asked for costs. For transportation, refurbishment, location, maintenance and permission there is a lot to consider. The cost is anticipated to be around \$50,000 - \$100,000. Greg said there are grants available for this type of thing if it is a "sculpture."

Location: The preferred location would be downtown but that has to be discussed. Greg mentioned that it should be historically accurate. The commission could also hold a fundraising campaign. First the commission would have to see if it is possible to do as there are many options. The Trolley Museum also mentioned it could be done as a "permanent loan." The commission decided to see first if this is a feasible project then the details can be worked out. Will the Trolley Museum do the work involved or does this get sourced out?

VIII. New Business

- "Fairy" metal sculpture or similar like the photo that Julie shared. This subject is tabled for tonight.
- Turtles: Sarah has not heard back from the artists she has contacted. CT Murals called Lindsay today and Lindsay referred them to Sarah for a list of artists.
- Traffic Boxes: Greg inquired on the status. The Forestville one is being redone and the Police asked about the First Responder idea. They have been invited to attend a meeting.

Kim Villanti excused herself at 7:56 p.m.

IX. Adjournment

Andrea Adams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Samantha Buonafede.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Cooper,
Recording Secretary