



TOWN OF  
**NEWMARKET**  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Arts, Culture & Tourism Commission

Tuesday, May 7 at 6 pm  
Town Hall Auditorium

### MEETING MINUTES

#### Meeting called to order at 6:05pm.

In attendance: Debra Smith, Pam Myers-Morgan, Justin Glazebrook, Ben Reeder, Ben Buckley, Morgan Santos, Aimee Gigandet, Bart McDonough & Ed Hicks. Missing: Shannon Culpepper

1. **Acceptance of Minutes of 4/9/24** Motion made by Justin and seconded by Ed. APPROVED
2. **Interweave Community Engagement Presentation by Christine Destremes-** 23 invited community representatives attended art-making “dry-run” presentation. Evaluations distributed and to be shared with presenter for event refinement. 22 looms were created.
3. **Wiley House Park Project Update**
  - a. Permission to paint utility box denied by Eversource. Alternate recommendation: install a screen to be funded by Eversource Community Grant. Newmarket High School student, Avery Ahumada, to paint mini Art Gallery and screen as her “Passion Project.”
    - i. Motion #1 to proceed as recommended was tabled until more info from Eversource is received.
  - b. Community Engagement Interweave \$4288 estimate received from Christine Destremes (agreement attached). Test-run conducted on 5/7 with 25 invited community representatives. Contract includes 100 looms to be completed via two summer presentations (July 15 & 16) by artist for creation of interwoven weir-like art installations in multiple locations. Additional presentations to be conducted by librarians and art teachers at Parks & Recreation. Memorandum of Agreement received & executed on 4/22/24 from Lamprey River Wild & Scenic Subcommittee for \$4500 grant (agreement attached). Morgan recommended this project for NH Chronicles story.
    - i. Motion #2 to accept \$4288 Christine Destremes event estimate and distribute LRAC funds as per grant letter of agreement. Motion by Justin and seconded by Ben. B. APPROVED
    - ii. Motion #3 to reimburse Debra for \$68 for light refreshments served to Interweave participants on 5/7. Motion by Ben R. and seconded by Ben. B. APPROVED
  - c. Photo Campaign Launch via Better World fundraising tool has been setup. Each resident will be allowed to upload maximum of 5 photos to be used in mural and/or Master Plan document. Suggested donation is \$10/resident. Additional donation amounts can be accepted to support other ACT projects. Acceptance of Town photo release form will be part of upload process. Photos to be uploaded to our Google One drive. Community

Campaign to launch May 13<sup>th</sup>. QR Code to be part of our Coming Soon sign. Ben recommended addition of clause to indicate that photos will be reviewed for quality and appropriateness; not all photos will be used.

- i. Motion #4 to accept optional resident donation with maximum 5 photo submission via Better World fundraising tool. Motion made by Justin and seconded by Ben. B. APPROVED
- d. Willey House Mural Subcommittee Minutes (attached). We have received 3 design proposals thus far and are expecting several more by the 5pm deadline today. Subcommittee will review all proposals received on 5/9 & 5/13 and narrow the field to five. Artists will be invited to present in person to week of 5/20.
- e. Photo Education Classes- Library has reserved July 19, 20 & 23 for potential classes on how-to take best pictures with your cell phone. Received inquiry from Cris Blackwell regarding class instructors. Ben. R. spoke to her during Interweave presentation. To follow-up with her. Ben R. recommended that Shannon would be best to schedule & promote photography classes.
- f. Bart reported that Willey House owner Beb Stebbins has revised interest in providing an easement and instead offered a revokable in-perpetuity lease agreement which would require a costly survey. Commission declined this offer and will not install either seating or a sculpture as originally planned on this property. Bart will communicate this decision to Stebbins.

#### 4. Artist Among Us Pocket Park

- a. Presented proposal to American Legion & VFW on 5/1 to underwrite the printing of the mural and dedicate the park in memory of the soldier who donated the site to the Town. Requested \$5000 endowment, which would cover 5 years of mural printing and all ACT to build a mural library of 12 different exhibits. Legion's decision is pending membership approval.
  - b. Both Natasha Dikareva and Ellen Hopkin Fountain's mural panels are being printed at Southport Printing, Portsmouth. Cost to print eight two-sided panels is \$898 for unveiling scheduled for May 30<sup>th</sup> immediately following Memorial Day Parade.
    - i. Motion #5 to pay \$898 mural printing expense. Funds will be reimbursed to Parks & Rec. when 2024-25 ACT budget funds become available on July 1. Motion made by Pam and seconded by Ben. B. APPROVED
  - c. Five exterior art display panels were received from a closing art gallery. They are currently being stored at DPW. Proposal is to install some or all of them against the deteriorating concrete wall parallel to Jonny Boston's so that we can invite artists to display &/or sell their art during Art in the Park Sundays over the summer. Charge a \$50 fee to reserve a Sunday and we will only be responsible for advertising the display. DPW will install panels for us.
    - i. Motion #6 to proceed with installation of panels in the park as proposed by DPW. Motion made by Ben R. and seconded by Ed. APPROVED
5. Reminder: **RecConnect is May 23 at Millspace**. Millspace declined request to display mural panels, but accepted our ability to auction off art pieces. Commission decided to retain all donated art pieces for the Backyard Bash. Attendees will be invited to vote on mural designs. All invited. Members encouraged to wear name tag and provide assistance with ACT activities as needed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45pm, Respectfully submitted, Debra Smith