

**East Windsor Arts and Culture
Meeting Agenda
3/12/24
6:30 PM
East Windsor Town Hall**

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting

I. Call to Order/Attendance

At 6:31 p.m. Debbie Williams called the meeting to order. The commission members present were Kristin Blume, Sharon Aprea, Bernie Duffy, Christina Posniak, Debbie Williams, and Rusty Williams; also including commission liaison, Sarah Muska and Jeff Holcombe.

II. Approval of minutes of 2/27/24 Special Meeting

Debbie inquired if we had a chance to review the minutes from the February 27 meeting. Rusty made a motion to approve the February minutes and Kristin seconded this motion concluding that all were in favor.

III. Added agenda items?

There were no additional agenda items discussed.

IV. Discussion of 2.27.24 public participation/Committee to Commission status/budget presentation updates/email from Keith

Debbie thanked committee members for our passionate support of the committee. Sarah Muska asked about the meeting and committee members reported their thoughts on February's meeting, reporting that Keith Yagaloff, EW Selectman, attended as a resident, spoke in public participation for about 25 minutes. Kristin gave her perspective on her experience attending her first meeting as an official member in February. We agreed that we know who we are as a committee and will not be deterred by one person's opinion. We agreed as Russell made a motion to keep us as a committee and Bernie seconded and it was unanimous; we agreed as a committee to stay as a committee.

Debbie did a budget presentation on February 28 and presented an overview of what we've done. Debbie prepared for this presentation a collage of projects. Debbie reported that the Board of Selectmen were complimentary.

V. On-going projects

a. Birdhouses decorating project-Home Depot, out of stock/waitlist

Debbie reported that both Home Depot and Lowes still don't have the original birdhouses and it appears that there is not a date for when more will come in. Kristin told us that Paul Anderson here in the center of town might be helpful in constructing these birdhouses. Debbie was prepared to try Tractor Supply or store. Kristin spoke with someone from Home Depot, and they are not able to get them in stock. During the meeting, Sarah checked with Charlie Nordell and he confirmed he is willing to prepare birdhouses for \$10 per birdhouse.

b. Performance artist event (open mic) at Trolley Museum 4.27.24

We now have two performance artists; we are looking to get a few more folks before the April date. Debbie will ask Jason Bowsza to get it on his town phone announcement. We have one six-year-old singer and one baritone ukulele player.

c. EWHS Graduation Boards

Debbie and Rusty found some pallets; we don't have enough yet.

d. BBES Rock River

All the rocks are cleaned and buffed and scrubbed. There are 87 kids in this class. Last year we bought paint pens. Debbie donated two rocks for the rock river separation.

e. Arts and Culture Day 2024 - 5.18.24

We can set up as early as 9am.

i. Budget

We have \$3,500 to spend on Arts and Culture Day.

ii. Cookie decorating?

The cookie artist offered that she could do a project with watercolor edible paint. She reduced her price to \$3 per cookie. We will consider ordering 50-75 of them.

iii. Khamp-confirmed, project TBD

iv. Bottle cap project-new numbers, ideas

14,256 bottle caps in total! The project is TBD

v. Picnic table/Julie Bergeron

Debbie spoke with the artist on Friday; she will have people painting it. She will have strips of poly tabs and people will paint them. She is thinking of jewel tones and spring themed. Her fee will be paid out of the grant and her project material we will be paying for.

vi. Food- 2 trucks confirmed

1. Fat City Kid; 2. Momma Knead; and 3. Kona Ice Truck

vii. Vendors

Jeff Holcombe, Karen, Stavalone, Bernie Duffy, Cathy the cookie lady and several others. Karen asked if Bernie was available with his truck, Karen may be doing a hand craft. Frank was there last year and Keira. Debbie will ask other students who might want to show and/ or vend.

viii. Signs

We agreed to make bigger signs.

ix. Promotional giveaway

Debbie passed out the coloring book and colored pencils.

x. Music- 2 acts confirmed

The same high school kids were not available. The band reached out to Debbie who were thrasher/heavy metal that were 14–18-year-olds. Debbie reached out to a band to see if there were a couple of members who could do a duet. Brian Titus is available.

xi. DEEP project

VI. New/Future Projects

a. Decommissioned bus shelter/meeting with Jason

Shelter is bolted to the ground currently. You must be a municipality and have someone from public works need to claim it when it comes up for public auction. Debbie filled out the form to claim it and she will put a bid on it. It will cost a flat \$50. We are hoping that it will not go to public auction as items will be at the highest bidder in that way. We have a

place to store it. The artist will begin when he comes back from Puerto Rico.

b. Mural at WHP Library

Despite the fact that Debbie had met with previous administrations and Matt Conway and Debbie met with the librarian to talk about a partnership to paint a mural at the library, Alex Ranniello is doing the dinosaur mural. Debbie expressed disappointment that Alex contacted the library directly, instead of through Arts and Culture or Matt Conway, and agreed to do the mural.

c. Mural at American Legion

Debbie is going to a meeting next Monday night.

d. Farmtown diner

Debbie reached out to them because they have a space that could be a mural; she was thinking that one side of the gas station.

VII. Communication

- a. Jason Bowsza
- b. Keith Yagaloff
- c. Julie Bergeron
- d. DAS
- e. Cathy Doner
- f. Home Depot
- g. Alex Ranniello/Matt Conway
- h. James Barton

VIII. Public Participation

IX. Adjourn

Debbie adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Posniak, *East Windsor Arts and Culture Committee Recording Secretary*