

East Windsor Arts and Culture

Meeting Agenda

10/10/23

6:30 PM

East Windsor Town Hall

**\*These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting\***

I. Call to Order/Attendance

At 6:33 p.m. Debbie Williams called the meeting to order. Commission members present were Sharon Aprea, Christina Posniak, Karen Stavolone, and Debbie Williams; and community participants included: Kristin Blume, Russ Salk, and Jeff Holcombe; and commission liaison, Sarah Muska were also present.

II. Approval of minutes of 9/12/23 meeting

Debbie asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from the September 12 meeting. Sharon made a motion to approve the September minutes and Karen seconded this motion concluding that all were in favor.

III. On-going/recently completed projects update.

a. Collaboration with Trolley Museum/BB Center for Arts

The trolley car advertisements are done, and Debbie will report back when they have been installed and will try to get a photo to post on social media.

b. Collaboration with Soccer Club/HS

The EW Soccer Club will pay for the paint for this project up to \$400. Debbie let us know that there is already a design which includes the EW soccer club logo in the center with soccer player figures on each side.

c. BBES mural reveal/meeting with principal

We discussed the mural reveal. Debbie had a meeting with Laura Foxx about the blacktop area where the students have recess. Laura would like to have circles painted where the kids line up to go back into the building. Kristin Blume proposed that we may want to think about activities like hopscotch and four square painted in this area as opposed to the map of the United States. Debbie wanted to make sure that Laura considers fundraising for this because an artist would need to be paid well for this type of project and while this commission can help them find an artist, we do not have the funds to pay for it.

d. Annual Report

Debbie submitted the annual report at the end of September. Debbie read Jason Bowsza's good feedback.

e. Food Drive Fundraiser

The food drive fundraiser collected a whopping 36,000 lbs. of food and the food pantry was very grateful. The attendance was small, but they donated so much. We talked about the need to consider marketing for this kind of event.

f. EW Veterans

Debbie has reached out but not heard back from them.

IV. New Projects

a. Sculpture/visual art at EWP

b. Upcycle contest/birdhouses/bottle caps

Debbie reminded the group what our brainstorming ideas were from the last time we discussed. Karen also reminded the group of the idea that Kelly Meyer brought to the commission about an upcycle contest. It was suggested that Paul Anderson from the boy scouts could help us to make a bird house kit. Karen suggested that we have this activity to lead up to Arts and Culture Day. Karen told us about a New York Botanical Garden show she went to where trains were made from all natural materials. Awareness about recycling. Debbie would like to suggest a contest as we have hosted a contest each year of this commission's existence. We discussed that some people will make functional birdhouses and some that are not going to be functional. Debbie talked about bottle cap donation boxes at each of the schools leading up to Arts and Culture Day where we could use them for an upscale project.

Jeff Holcombe suggested that the arts day include performances like dance or theatrical. Debbie would like to consider a food truck. Karen talked about an Irish band who she recently saw who were fantastic.

c. Performing arts awards idea

Russ outlined again his interest in giving recognition to kids in a school who are in the arts. Russ was stating that there is recognition for athletes and nothing for the performing arts. Debbie stated that our commission is not set up to give funds directly to people, but our mission is to collaborate with other town entities to have the greatest impact in the community. The schools are responsible for recognizing their teachers and students.

- d. Mural at Good Mornings
- e. EWHs projects
- f. Mural at WHP Library
- g. Arts and Culture Day 2024 5.18.23

We continued our ideas about an arts and culture day. We would ask Khamp if he could do the painting presentation, he was going to do last year. We could do the Birdhouse contests we talked about and have different categories. We also discussed some of the artwork at the high school that could be displayed.

Debbie has been looking around to create a website for Arts and Culture and Jeff noted that websites can have high priced monthly fees.

V. Communication

- a. Matt Conway
- b. Allison Anderson
- c. Laura Foxx

VI. Public Participation

Russ came to request an update on his ideas about birdhouses.

VII. Adjourn

Debbie adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

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