

East Windsor Arts and Culture
Meeting Minutes
10/11/22
6:30 PM
Town Hall, Broad Brook

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting

Commission members in attendance: Sharon Aprea, Christina Posniak, Karen Stavolone, Debbie Williams, Russell Williams, Jim Richards

Additional Individuals present: Madinah Gharib

I. Call to Order/Attendance

At 6:31 p.m. the meeting was called to order and Debbie Williams welcomed those in attendance. Debbie offered a moment of celebration as this commission has been existence for a full year.

Approval of minutes of 9/13/22 meeting

Debbie made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 13 meeting and the motion was seconded by Christina Posniak.

II. Jim's email/pride in group (requested by Karen and pending Jim's attendance)

Debbie began the brief discussion by reminding the committee members that conversation or communication through email about committee matters cannot occur. Any committee conversation needs to occur in a formal meeting. Being a Town Committee, email conversations with people replying all establishes a quorum and that constitutes a meeting. Discussion on projects and topics need to occur in a publicly-noticed meeting.

Debbie asked the members to have pride in what we do collectively as a commission and to add agenda items to any of our meetings if you have ideas, concerns or questions.

Debbie asked Jimbo if he would like to discuss any of the topics he raised in his email to commission members on June 7, 2022 with the subject "Just Sad." Jimbo stated that he did not have anything further to discuss.

III. On-going/Old Business

a. Media day at Trolley Museum 10.15.22

Debbie encouraged committee members to attend. There will be several speakers during the ribbon cutting including Director of the Trolley Museum, Debbie, Artist, Matt Conway, and Jason Bowsa.

b. Logo contest update

We are giving it one more month and then will go with what submissions we have.

c. Collaboration with AHRC

This chain-saw carving will be created from a large piece of wood and the artist has asked for transportation of the wood to his home. Debbie will seek some help from a member of the River Commission. The estimate for our share of the wood carving is \$325.00. Christina Posniak made a motion to approve the \$325.00 and Sharon seconded the motion; the motion was approved.

d. Collaboration with schools

a. EWHS: grad project, tennis court fence project/Booster/\$

The slats for the Grad Project are ready and the next step is they needed to be sanded and primed.

The tennis fence spacing is 1.75 inches, and the gap is too small for the type of weave we were considering. There is a version of a pop in; the entire project would now cost \$600, and the Booster Club has offered to pay for 1/3 along with us and the school. A panther would be an extra \$250 in addition to the words: "Panther Pride." This would cover up the defunct tennis courts. Debbie made a motion to put forward the Panther Pride Project for our 1/3 cost and the motion was seconded by Russell Williams, the motion approved.

e. BBES: Rock River, 1B1S mural (October 24th Deb will meet with school admins)

f. EWMS: courtyard- meeting with Beautification Committee (Deb will meet October 26th)

g. Public display of student work

h. Mural at BB Garage

i. Collaboration with police station, Town Hall, P&R, and Senior Center

Debbie is working with Public Works that would install a system so that all different sized artwork can be displayed. The display case at the Police Station would allow for sculpture. Karen reminded us that youth art month is in March; this is a national month celebration.

We hung the community art piece in the Police station, we discussed painting a border around it.

j. P&R Scarecrow contest

Debbie and Christina agreed to team up to submit a scarecrow for the contest on behalf of the Commission. They will submit a scarecrow to look like the late artist, Bob Ross.

k. CT Office of the Arts grant

The Commission will find out on November 7 if we received this grant.

l. Greater Together Community Fund grant

The Commission will find out at the end of October if we received this grant. We will discuss as a commission at the November meeting our next steps. Debbie disclosed that we had a \$4k budget that we have not tapped. We planned for the biggest possible event in her writing of the proposal. Debbie reiterated that the whole town will benefit. The GTCF Advisory

Committee met at the beginning of the month and they disclosed that they did receive a number of proposals. Debbie will report on the grant status at the November meeting. Debbie passed out a culture wheel so that we are taking on each kind of culture to consider when planning the FestivAL.

IV. New Business

a. Collaboration with EW Soccer Club

Debbie reported that the EW Soccer Club asked if we wanted to paint the new kickboard. Debbie reached out to the high school art teacher and is waiting to hear back.

b. Annual report

Debbie emailed the annual report to the committee for review. Debbie will hand in the Annual Report this week.

c. Next year's meeting dates

Debbie would like to propose the 2nd Tuesday of every month for our next year's meeting schedule. November's meeting may be at Park Hill as the Town Hall will have the election.

d. FestivAL (to be discussed in November)

e. Photography contest – to be discussed in detail at the next meeting

V. Communication

- a. VP and principal and art teachers of ES, MS, and HS
- b. Gina Alimberti-Trolley Museum
- c. Booster Club
- d. Police dept.
- e. Ed Crowell- Bear Creek Studio
- f. Courtney Kataja- Courtney Lynn Photography
- g. Chris Lariviere-BB Garage
- h. Joe Unsworth- EW Soccer Club

Public Art:

Karen encouraged us to consider being in touch with artists

VI. Public Participation

Madinah Gharib asked about the community piece of art and had several ideas about future commission projects and fundraising including the idea of auctioning off our community art. Debbie stated she would put fundraising as an agenda item in an upcoming meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Karen made a motion to adjourn and the meeting ended at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Williams, Chair of the East Windsor Arts and Culture Committee