

FINAL

**CITY OF LEBANON
ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
MINUTES, February 22, 2022
City Hall Council Chambers & LebanonNH.gov/Live
6:30PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: (7/10)

Devin Wilkie (Heritage Commission Rep.)
Jessica Giordani (Chair; Citizen Rep. Ward 3)
Nick Gaffney (Arts Org. Rep.-AVA Gallery)
Becky Foster (Citizen Rep., Ward 1)
Bill Dunn (EDC Rep.)-Remote
Gavin Wynkoop-Fischer (Citizen Rep., Ward 2)
Brian Cook (Arts Org. Rep.-LOH Alt.) -Remote

MEMBERS ABSENT: (3/10)

Joe Clifford (Vice Chair; Arts Org. Rep.-LOH), **Ben Van Vliet** (Arts Org. Rep.-UVMC), **Karen Zook** (City Council Rep.),
Sherry Fiore (Alt.)

STAFF PRESENT: (2/2)

Kristine Flythe (Program Coordinator, Leb. Rec)-Remote,
Paul Coats (Director, Leb. Rec.)

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Giordani called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** January 25, 2022

Brian Cook and Bill Dunn, members attending remote, were given permission to vote.

*Devin Wilke MOVED to approve the January 25, 2022, minutes.
Seconded by Gavin Wynkoop-Fischer.*

**The Motion was approved (6/0/1).
Brian Cook abstained.*

3A. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Sidewalk Poetry Project (B.Foster)

The sidewalk poetry work has been turned over to a new staff person. They will be determining where each of the poems will be installed. The St. Paul Company that is making the forms has not been in contact and therefore it is anticipated that there will not be any change in the delivery dates.

Laura Jean Gilloux participated in the discussion. She has been volunteering with the committee. They intend to kick off the poetry contest during the month of April. The poems will be submitted by June. It will be a soft launch in April and will initially be done by word of mouth. Poems will be submitted through an email submission box. Ms. Foster outlined some of the guidelines for the poetry contest and what the subcommittee has been discussing. There will be a maximum of 300 characters and no minimum character requirements. Poems can be submitted in any language provided there is an English translation. They are working on determining a rubric for judging the poems. The members discussed if there will be any need to have a portion of the poems be written by local authors. Some of the members feel that it is important that Lebanon has poetry, and the poetry benefits the community; it may be less relevant where the author is living. They are working on a list of people to ask to be judges.

The agenda was adjusted; the Chair opened the public discussion.

4. OPEN to the Public

A. Chet Clem - West Lebanon Revitalization

Action Plan
Green Vision
River Park
Lyme Properties
Can we use humor

Chet Clem, from Lyme Properties, spoke to the members. He has participated in the West Lebanon Revitalization Project and is developing the River Park Project. He shared the work his company has done to help foster community growth and to enhance the amenities within the community. His message is smart growth and cooperation with the community. He spoke about the work they have done with the hiking trails, the green vision of the building he intends to build, and a plan to coordinate with other community groups to form collaborations.

He spoke about the Northern Gateway that will hopefully be developed using the railroad yard. They received a grant for signage to mark the beginning of the gateway in White River. The signage will be artistic and pleasant to look at as well as inform.

B. Jennifer Chambers - We plan to launch a private arts high school in the fall of 2023

Ms. Chambers came before the members. They are in the process of launching a private art school. The educational focus is experiential, and the curriculum will provide authentic student experiences that give back to the community. The students will be involved with local arts organizations. They hope to open in 2023 and the school has been approved by the State.

The discussion returned to the order of the agenda.

3B. OTHER BUSINESS

B. Arts & Culture 2022 Goals Planning and Summary (J.Giordani)

Chair Giordani updated the Commission on conversations she has recently had that were based on the ideas presented last month. The some of the conversations compared the list the members generated to the tasks of the Master Plan of the City and how the Commission can help further those goals. The Commission is tasked with annual signature events and that can be difficult without more financial and administrative support. The farmers market is an opportunity for the arts and local arts organizations to connect with people during the farmers market, where there is an active recurring audience. They will continue to consider ideas to bring arts into the park.

The Art Cart was discussed. Gardner Supply has a two-wheel garden cart, made in Vermont, that costs under \$500. They discussed contacting the manufacturer and Gardner Supply to ask about doing some type of donation. Also, there are mesh deck carts that can be built on. The carts can likely be developed for a lower cost but may not be as desirable. The Art Cart could be brought out during the farmers market.

The members discussed using murals and paintings to cover up some of the local graffiti and opportunities to bring more art to the West Lebanon community.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

6. ADJOURNMENT

Devin Wilkie MOVED to Adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM.

Seconded by Nick Gaffney.

****The Motion was approved (7/0).***

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Billings
Recording Secretary