

FINAL

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: (7/9) **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.)
 Gavin Wynkoop-Fischer (Citizen Rep., Ward 2)
 Joe Clifford (Vice Chair; Arts Org. Rep.-LOH),-Remote

MEMBERS ABSENT: (2/9) **Ben Van Vliet** (Arts Org. Rep.-UVMC)
 Karen Zook (City Council Rep.)

STAFF PRESENT: (1/2) **Kristine Flythe** (Program Coordinator, Leb. Rec)
 Paul Coats (Director, Leb. Rec.)-not present

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Giordani called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Joe Clifford attended remotely and was given voting privileges.

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

*Devin Wilke MOVED to approve the February 22, 2022, minutes.
Seconded by Gavin Wynkoop-Fischer.*

**The Motion was approved (6/0/1).
Joe Cooper abstained because he was absent.*

3A. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Sidewalk Poetry Project (B.Foster)

They are talking with several people and learning the ins and outs of laying the new forms properly. Depending on the weather they may start laying the forms in late April. The form has to be placed close to the edge and cannot be in the middle. If an error occurs while laying the form, it can be removed but cannot be replaced in the same place. Only four poems will be laid this year. One will be in front of the Lebanon Opera House, one will be between Salt Hill and Three Tomatoes, and one will be in front of Mascoma Bank. One issue that happened in Minnesota dealt with a resident not liking the poem that was installed in front of their home. The team has gotten approval for all the poems and placements in Lebanon. Each of the forms has small holes to remove the form. They will fill the holes with cement.

B. Poetry Contest (K.Flythe & D.Wilkie)

The flyer has been created and shared with the members. The committee is planning to keep the rules flexible with limited restrictions. The contest will be announced today but will cover the entire Poetry Month. Poems will be collected through the end of June. Yet to be determined, they hope to select 4 to 6 poems. They will not know what the DPW paving schedule will be in the following year or the number

of acceptable poems that will be submitted. Judges are being recruited and as yet, the judges are not determined, so their names will not be stated on the poster.

C. Art Cart (G.Wynkoop-Fisher & B.Dunn)

There are no updates on the art cart project.

D. Tunnel Art Round 2 (K.Flythe)

The discussion centered on looking at previous submissions or opening it to a whole new pool of submissions. It was thought that it might be a good opportunity to start with new submissions as more people are aware of the potential of the art may have new ideas. Previous submissions could be resubmitted if desired as there were many worthy pieces. They discussed setting a theme for submissions, Previously there were good ideas for themes, but many alternative ideas were presented as well. Themes could be suggested to stimulate ideas for artists, and ideas of recreation and nature may be helpful. Greenspace, recreation and cultural ideas are well received in Lebanon. But following a theme will not be required.

E. Outdoor Display Plaque Guidelines (K.Flythe)

Outdoor plaques have been done for the four art pieces. There are no current standards. They discussed using the Artways logo on the plaques and there seemed to be consensus to use the logo.

F. Banner Update

In December they put up the banners they ordered, and the hardware was fragile and many of the banners came down. In early May, they could hang the banners again. The hardware needs to be addressed first of all. There are 18 holes that need hardware, 12 in Lebanon and 6 in West Lebanon. Without further review it is unknown which hardware on the 18 poles is still adequate and which needs to be replaced with new hardware. Briefly, a quick look suggests hardware could be around \$100 a set. If all were needed it could be as much as \$1800, and then it will be unknown what and when the old hardware will fail. At this time, it is unknown if the hardware is available. The first step is to evaluate the existing hardware and it is hoped that can happen quickly. If any banners are eliminated the four that come up the Mechanic Street hill to downtown Lebanon were considered.

There are three sets of four banners in Lebanon and in West Lebanon the banners are in pairs in West Lebanon.

***Gavin MOVED to approve a budget of up to \$1400 for the purchase of sufficient hardware to ensure that at least 14 banners can be installed in Lebanon and West Lebanon.
Seconded by Nick Gafney.***

**** The MOTION was Approved (7-0).***

4. NEW BUSINESS

A small group of Commission Members and members of the public will begin holding conversations about summer projects and things to do in West Lebanon.

Perhaps the Artways Logo has stencils they can use to create murals such as the shed. The stencils could be painted in places where they hope to cover graffiti.

There was a discussion regarding the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds. Kristine attended an ARPA meeting on behalf of the Arts and Culture Commission. She said cultural, tourism and art projects were encouraged to make application. It is unknown if the City has received any funds.

An upcoming event is the UVMC faculty showcase concert on April 2 at 4:00 PM at the First Congregational Church. The annual event supports tuition assistance at UVMC. It is a variety show, a concert with a tasting of many musical genres. Tickets are no cost and donations to UVMC are encouraged.

Kristine announced that she recently became aware that the Hanover Street School and Mount Lebanon School afterschool YMCA program is ending on April 8 due to staffing issues and it is not intended to be reinstituted. Camp Coniston is closing 16 sites with after school programs. The Rec Department is discussing if they can be helpful with after school programming in future years.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No one from the public spoke.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission discussed that a motion and vote is not required to adjourn. It is the responsibility of the Chair to adjourn the meeting.

Chair Giordani Adjourned the meeting at 7:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Billings
Recording Secretary