

FINAL

**CITY OF LEBANON
ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
MINUTES September 27, 2022
City Hall Council Chambers & LebanonNH.gov/Live
6:00PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: (7/9) **Jessica Giordani** (Chair; Citizen Rep. Ward 3)
 Ben Van Vliet (Arts Org. Rep.-UVMC)
 Sheryl Trainor (Arts Org. Rep.-AVA Gallery)
 Bill Dunn (EDC Rep.)
 Brian Cook (Rep.-LOH)
 Becky Foster (Citizen Rep., Ward 1)
 Gavin Wynkoop-Fischer (Citizen Rep., Ward 2)-Remote

MEMBERS ABSENT: (2/9) **Karen Zook** (City Council Rep.)
 Devin Wilkie (Heritage Commission Rep.)

STAFF PRESENT: (2/2) **Kristine Flythe** (Program Coordinator, Leb. Rec)
 Paul Coats (Director, Leb. Rec.)-on line

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Giordani called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** July 26, 2022

*Bill Dunn MOVED to approve the July 26, 2022, minutes.
Seconded by Becky Foster.*

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

In order to accommodate the guest from the community, the order of the agenda was changed.

3. **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

A. Friends of Lebanon Recreation (Dan Moriarty)

Dan Moriarty, President of the Board of the Friends of Lebanon Recreation, Parks and Art introduced their mission to support the activities in the Lebanon Area, and the activities that the recreation department provides to the Lebanon Community. They have been looking at the many arts organizations within Lebanon and the art activities that are provided. In June they were discussing ways to help with the walls of the tunnel. They are a 501c and willing to assist with projects and grants that will serve the greater Lebanon area. They are fiscal sponsors for many organizations. They help in applying for grants and submitting applications. He discussed the many successful endeavors they have been working on within the community and their success in being awarded grants. The Commission is enthusiastic to find ways to collaborate with the Friends and look forward to their assistance and benefiting from the Friends resources to help make things happen.

4. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. West Lebanon Bridge Street Party Oct. 1 (B.Foster)

The party will be October 1st, 2022. From 1:00 to 3:00 they will be planting trees and plants. The neighborhood is invited from 3:00 to 5:00 for the afternoon activities. There will be food, music, and a release of the Rail Trail plan. There will be a chalk drawing project on the wide sidewalks going up the hill. There will be a competition for the chalk art for some of the more advanced students and another area for younger students.

One of the things the City is doing is developing actionable items to execute, based on input from the commissions to the City Council. Many things in the future are on the table for West Lebanon. When the Economic Development Commission (EDC) put forth its 2023 priorities, one of the things on its list is to execute a long- or short-term lease of the Westborough Yard property to gain site control. Two other major recommendations are connecting the current Mascoma green way all the way through and inclusive of the new River Park. The State has said they are willing to sell the Yard and still remain responsible for any contaminants or materials that could be under the ground. In the next five years they hope to redevelop the West Lebanon Downtown.

Paul Coats discussed the City's strategic plan. He provided an overview of the strategic plan, and asked each member to submit their own input into the plan. The ideas can be for the next year or for years to come. At this phase, staff will bring these ideas forward. It will link to the City's Master Plan, but the Strategic Plan will focus on operational issues and help inform the budget plan for upcoming years. The City Manager will submit the final requests to the City Council. Paul shared his screen showing how the Arts Commission fits into the Strategic Plan. The members will be sent the link and information about submitting recommendations. Eventually a final review will take place in May and will be folded into the upcoming budget process.

B. Poetry Contest (K.Flythe)

Four winners have been chosen. The members discussed how the winners should be announced. The next two events are the Halloween event and the December holiday event, and one opportunity will be chosen. It will also be announced through the media and there may be other possible ways to recognize the winners. They are looking into where the next concrete work will be done by the City, for the poems in the upcoming year.

C. Tunnel Strategic Plan (J.Giordani)

The brainstorming ideas were submitted by members. Jessica will summarize the ideas and send it out to the members in the next week or so.

D. Community Partnership Troop 10659 (K.Flythe)

The local girl scout troop created art on the planters and cement towers outside of the tunnel. They worked with muralists to create the prints and stencils. Another artist joined the troop and added her work to one of the planters. The paint was donated by Sherwin Williams. The artwork is a nice addition to the tunnel.

One suggestion was discussed for putting up large scale printed art that can be more easily installed and removed than actual painting. These could be community sponsored installations.

E. Banner Update (K.Flythe)

The accessories for mounting the banners have been received. They are working on getting help to install them. They are hoping the City will collaborate to help get the mounting brackets and banners up.

F. Ideas and Inspiration (J.Giordani/K.Flythe)

Lynne Goodwin shared photos of a mosaic project that took ten years to create by the North Creek community. The work was created along a walk and many organizations and individuals contributed. There are many other inspirations from other people and communities. The members are thinking of ways to keep track of inspirational ideas that could be used in the future.

Light up Leb has been going on for two years. Fun Fest is October 29, they are switching up and holding the event on Saturday and hopefully pumpkins will again be donated to carve. Then the pumpkins that are left from the festival can be carved at Light up Leb and any carved pumpkins from the festival that are left, would be relit for Halloween. They are hoping for members and possibly another group such as the boy scouts, to contribute to the efforts of the evening. More feet on the ground to advertise and getting the information out would also help spread the word. The pumpkin contest could be posted at locations that sell pumpkins. They have a good plan based on previous years.

There are many upcoming anniversaries within the arts, ranging from 40, 50 and 100 years. Bill Dunn suggested that a proclamation could be prepared and read by the City Council in recognition of all the arts efforts in the Lebanon community. Kristine Flythe will work on how that can be brought forth.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Giordani Adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Billings
Recording Secretary