

FINAL

**CITY OF LEBANON
ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
MINUTES July 25, 2023
City Hall Council Chambers & LebanonNH.gov/Live
6:30PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: (7/7)

Jessica Giordani (Chair; Citizen Rep. Ward 2)
Nick Gaffney -Vice Chair - **Remote**
Ben Van Vliet (Arts Org. Rep.-UVMC)
Devin Wilkie (City Council, Heritage Commission & DEI Rep.)
Bill Dunn (EDC Rep.)
Brian Cook (LOH Rep)
Linda Copp (Alternate)

MEMBERS ABSENT: (0/7)

STAFF PRESENT: (2/2)

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Acting Chair Gaffney called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** March 28, 2023

Bill Dunn MOVED to approve the March 28, 2023, minutes.
Seconded by Devin Wilkie.

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

3. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. CALL FOR ARTISTS

The Commission intends to put out a call to artists. They hope everything will be in place by the end of October and hope to be able to offer a stipend to artists. They have money in the budget. Last time it was a \$2000 stipend plus installation costs for materials. This year they hope to cover both costs with the \$2000 because the art are murals instead of sculptures. They would like artists to reflect their costs for the installation and the balance is for an honorarium. They are looking for art that fits the location, and discussed how the potential funds that could possibly be made available. The members discussed if there are any directives such as dimensions or themes. They do not wish to be specific about themes but may give some ideas such as recreation, and railroads. The dimensions could be up to 18 feet high and up to 25 feet wide. The whole master plan for the tunnel may have differing artist styles or more of a long mural with varying themes. Maybe there could be a border that separates each artwork. There could be some standard of paint that should be used, something that would last. It must last at least 10 years. It is possible that the paint and materials would need to be approved before it is purchased by the artist. The members discussed potential jurors for selecting the artwork.

Devin Wilkie MOVED that the arts and culture commission allocate up to \$4000 for materials and stipend for tunnel arts.

Seconded by Nick Gaffney.

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

B. MIRO BOARD

The members discussed ideas they would like added to the MIRO Board. Kristine shared her screen showing the MIRO Board. This Commission operates under Strategic Objective 4.3. It shows the Action Plan to increase public art and the key performance indicators (KPI) to achieve the Action Plan. The members were surprised to see the notes about the first roundabout improvement, which will be the disfunction junction. A roundabout is expected at LaHaye, possibly in 2024. Many ideas are available, but they need to be doable actions. One idea is to find ways to encourage artists to look at Lebanon as a place where their art will be received. It was discussed to encourage the EDC rep to propose public art in any space involving public or City owned land. The MIRO Board provides guidance to the City Council to approve budgets. It will be reviewed annually for the strategic plan. It will evolve as things get accomplished. It is hoped there will be noticeable progress in the next year or two. If there are important ideas, they can be put in a parking lot of ideas that can be achieved in the future.

There was limited new business. Everyone was invited to the Lebanon Opera House event and Nexus which starts two days later. AVA is celebrating its 50th anniversary and a celebration and open house will be held on August 26. The City is re-adopting the Spencer Street project. There will be an opportunity for installation of the latest stamped poems by the DPW.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

5. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**6. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Giordani Adjourned the meeting at 7:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Billings
Recording Secretary