



LEBANON ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
JANUARY 26, 2021 - 6:30 PM
REMOTE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS
LEBANONNH.GOV/LIVE

-
- 1. Call to Order**
 - A. Review of meeting procedures and NH RSA 91-A "Right-to-Know" requirements.
 - 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. December 22, 2020
 - 3. Other Business**
 - A. Welcome to Arts & Culture new Heritage Committee Rep. Mimi Hains.
 - B. Vote: Election of Chair & Vice-Chair
 - C. Discussion: Graffiti Park Soft Opening - Jan. 15th at noon
 - D. Discussion: Establishing working groups in place of committees.
(Tunnel art, sidewalk poetry project, fundraising)
 - E. Discussion: Lebanon Artways and grand opening of tunnel
 - F. Discussion: Planning and goals for 2021
 - 4. Committee Reports**
 - A. Exploratory Funding and processing: (K.Zook, S. Fiore, B. Van Vliet)
 - B. Civic Art: (J. Giordani, S. Fiore, B. Dunn)
 - C. Programming: (K.Zook, D. Wilkie, R. Foster)
 - D. Publicity/Marketing: (J.Clifford, J. Giordani, R. Foster)
 - E. Data Collection: (D.Wilkie, B.Van Vliet)
 - 5. Open to the Public**
 - 6. Adjournment**

The order of agenda items is subject to change.

Due to the current situation with the COVID-19 Pandemic, the City of Lebanon is offering its meetings via Microsoft Teams. Members of the public are encouraged to attend by going to LebanonNH.gov/Live where you will find instructions on how to enter the meeting. Members of the public will be able to participate and ask questions through the Microsoft Teams software or by phone. Please visit LebanonNH.gov/Live for full details.

THE AGENDA, IN ITS ENTIRETY IS AVAILABLE ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT [LEBANONNH.GOV](https://LebanonNH.gov)

1 DRAFT

2 CITY OF LEBANON
3 ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
4 MINUTES, DECEMBER 22, 2020
5 REMOTE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS
6 LebanonNH.gov/Live
7 6:30PM
8

9 MEMBERS PRESENT: Jessica Giordani (Chair; Citizen Rep. Ward 3), Devin Wilkie
10 (Citizen Rep., Ward 2), Nick Gaffney (Arts Org. Rep.-AVA Gallery),
11 Ben Van Vliet (Arts Org. Rep.-UVMC), and Karen Zook (City
12 Council Rep.)
13

14 MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Clifford (Vice Chair; Arts Org. Rep.-LOH), Rebecca Foster
15 (Citizen Rep., Ward 1), Bill Dunn (EDC Rep.), and Sherry Fiore
16 (Alt.)
17

18 STAFF PRESENT: David Brooks, Planning & Zoning Director; Paul Coats, Recreation
19 and Parks Director; Kristine Flythe, Recreation Program Manager
20

21 -----
22
23 1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Giordani called the meeting to order at 6:31pm
24

25 A. Review of meeting procedures and NH RSA 91-A "Right-to-Know" requirements.
26

27 Mr. Brooks shared the State directive and participation details for the online meeting in Microsoft
28 Teams. All speakers identified themselves.
29

30 2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** November 24, 2020
31

32 A MOTION by Ms. Zook to approve the November 24, 2020 Minutes as presented.
33

34 Seconded by Mr. Gaffney.
35

36 Roll Call Vote:

37 Members voting in favor included: Chair Giordani, Ms. Zook, Mr. Wilkie, Mr. Gaffney,
38

39 Members abstaining: Mr. Van Vliet
40

41 *The Motion was approved (4-0-1)
42

43 3. **OTHER BUSINESS:**
44

45 A. Discussion Re: REC Graffiti Art in the Park project update
46

47 Ms. Flythe noted that the graffiti walls have already been used even prior to a soft opening. It was
48 noted that one of the first graffiti messages was "Thank You, Parks & Rec".
49

50 Mr. Coats noted the Recreation Department's intention was to post the rules and complete the
51 construction last week, but it was postponed due to the snowstorm. He indicated there was not
52 much left to do and that the Commission could set a soft opening date.
53

54 Mr. Gaffney said he could reach out other artists to begin using the walls, but wasn't sure if
55 weather conditions would keep people away. Chair Giordani asked if there was interest in setting
56 a soft opening date now or waiting until the next meeting. Ms. Zook recommended communicating
with the City Manager about organizing potential gatherings in light of the current pandemic
situation as the guidelines continue to change.

1 Other members agreed to hold off on setting a soft opening date until the rules are posted,
2 installation is completed, and more information is obtained regarding potential meetings. This
3 should be a discussion item for the Commission's January meeting.

4
5 Mr. Coats noted that by waiting for more information, the Commission may effectively bypass the
6 opportunity for a soft opening and end up having a more formal grand opening once the gathering
7 guidelines are clearer in the spring. Members agreed that it would be okay to not have any specific
8 date for a soft opening and just let people start using the space. Chair Giordani will share a recent
9 photo of the existing artwork.

10
11 Mr. Coats suggested a press release with photos to media outlets to announce a virtual soft
12 opening of the graffiti park and that it's open for use. It was suggested the discussion be continued
13 to the next meeting. Mr. Coats noted that the temporary rules banner should be nearly ready to
14 be posted. Ms. Flythe thanked Mr. Wilkie and Ms. Foster for helping install the graffiti art panels.

15
16 **B. Discussion Re: Tunnel project update**

17
18 Mr. Brooks noted that City Engineer Brian Vincent indicated that the schedule remains the same
19 with construction work anticipated for completion in early to mid-May 2021. It is still not clear
20 whether there will be any funds remaining once construction is substantially complete.

21
22 **C. Discussion Re: Planning and Goals for 2021**

23
24 Chair Giordani asked members to comment on goals and potential projects that could be worked
25 on in light of ongoing restrictions on in-person gatherings for the foreseeable future.

26
27 Ms. Zook mentioned working to get the sidewalk poetry project off the ground as a project that
28 could be undertaken without in-person meetings and would help with community buy-in and
29 awareness of the arts.

30
31 Mr. Gaffney mentioned continuing to think about and plan for doing something in the tunnel should
32 be a primary focus for the commission.

33
34 Mr. Wilkie seconded both ideas and also wants to see the commission continue to develop the
35 brand awareness and recognition of the commission's work. The goal should be to associate
36 Lebanon with the arts and associate art projects with the commission.

37
38 Mr. Van Vliet agreed with all prior suggestions, especially the idea of strengthening brand
39 awareness and championing all of the arts that are already occurring in the City. That could serve
40 a dual purpose of strengthening the brand and building coalitions with arts organizations.

41
42 Chair Giordani suggested getting started with building public/private partnerships, particularly with
43 potential fundraising opportunities since funding is expected to be tight in the coming year. She
44 noted that the necessary paperwork should be wrapped up in early 2021 to help facilitate
45 fundraising. She noted that other commission members will be asked to think about goals and
46 projects for further discussion in January.

47
48 **4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

49
50 Chair Giordani suggested taking an opportunity in the new year to revisit the concept of the
51 subcommittees, how they should function, and whether they need fine-tuning. She noted they
52 were originally set up with the idea of creating opportunities for public activity, which may not now
53 be possible for a period of time. Refocusing the subcommittees could allow them to be more
54 effective for the Commission.

Mr. Coats asked if there was a work group focused on the tunnel planning. Chair Giordani noted that the subcommittees should be more project focused rather than broad umbrella topics. Mr. Coats suggested setting up a meeting in January to start those discussions since the Recreation Department is tasked with planning the grand opening of the tunnel.

A. Exploratory Funding and Processing: (K. Zook, S. Fiore, B. Van Vliet)

No report.

B. Civic Art: (J. Giordani, S. Fiore, B. Dunn)

No report.

C. Programming: (K. Zook, D. Wilkie, R. Foster; N. Gaffney)

No report.

D. Publicity/Marketing: (J. Clifford, J. Giordani, R. Foster)

No report.

E. Data Collection: (D. Wilkie, B. Van Vliet)

No report.

5. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Chair Giordani thanked Mr. Brooks for helping get the Commission started over the last year and a half. Ms. Zook thanked all of the commission members for persevering through a very challenging first full year.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

A MOTION by Mr. Wilkie to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Ms. Zook.

Roll Call Vote:

Members voting in favor included: Chair Giordani, Ms. Zook, Mr. Wilkie, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Van Vliet

****The Motion was approved (5-0)***

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Brooks
Planning & Zoning Director