



**LEBANON ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
JUNE 25, 2024 - 6:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL OR
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM
LEBANONNH.GOV/LIVE**

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- 1. Call to Order**
 - 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. Approval of Minutes 5-28-2024
 - 3. Other Business**
 - A. Tunnel Art
 - B. Poetry Contest
 - C. Heritage Commission Tunnel Art Request
 - 4. Committee Reports**
 - 5. Open to the Public**
 - 6. Adjournment**

The order of agenda items is subject to change.

Meetings are open for in-person and remote attendance. Members of the public that wish to attend remotely may do so 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 City's virtual platform or by phone. Please note: Should technical difficulties occur during the meeting that disrupts virtual or phone connection(s), the meeting will continue without remote access capabilities.

DRAFT

**CITY OF LEBANON
ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
MINUTES May 28, 2024
City Hall Council Chambers & LebanonNH.gov/Live
6:30PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: (6/7) **Jessica Giordani** (Chair; Citizen Rep Ward 2)
 Nick Gaffney (Vice Chair; Arts Org. Rep)
 Devin Wilkie (City Council, Heritage Commission & DEI Rep)
 Brian Cook (Arts Org. Rep-LOH) Remote
 Ben Van Vliet (Arts Org. Rep-UVMC)
 Clare Geno (Ward 1 Citizen Rep)

MEMBERS ABSENT: (1/7) **Linda Copp** (Citizen Rep Ward 2)

STAFF PRESENT: (3) **Kristine Flythe** (Program Coordinator, Leb. Rec)

1
2 **1. CALL TO ORDER**
3

4 Chair Giordani called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

5
6 Kristine Flythe gave the RSA 91-A announcement.

7
8 Brian Cook was given permission to participate remotely due to health reasons.

9
10 Clare Geno is seated as a Ward 1 representative.

11
12 **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES March 26, 2024**
13

14 *Devin Wilkie MOVED to approve the March 26, 2024, as presented in the packet.*
15 *Seconded by Ben Van Vliet.*

16
17 **The Motion was unanimously approved.*
18

19 **3. OTHER BUSINESS**
20

21 **A. TUNNEL ART SUBMISSIONS -**
22

23 Emily Batties attended the meeting to present an image of her proposed 3-dimensional art piece for the
24 tunnel. It would be interactive, with 2 x 2 blocks or wooden cubes in color gradations. The blocks can be
25 changed by people passing through the tunnel. It would be low enough so children could interact with it.
26 It would change color, pattern and design allowing everyone to become artists. It would be about 3 feet
27 by 6 feet. She is proposing brackets to attach the piece to the wall because the blocks need to move. She
28 suggests it be placed on the pedestrian side of the tunnel, away from the bike path and low on the wall,
29 closer to the end of the tunnel. But she is open to any location. Construction near the end of the tunnel in
30 the near future may dictate where it could be placed. They discussed ways to make the piece larger to fill
31 more space.
32

33 John Garouette proposed adding onto his existing mural that is already in the tunnel. He proposes to
34 include more seasons, specifically some winter images. It is like a patchwork quilt with elements that
35 reflect Lebanon. Everything is larger than life. It would be one large painting, about 25 feet wide.

1 Julio Muñoz Uribe, presented a mural showing detail of the hills and natural areas of Lebanon with fish to
2 suggest the river and the river walk. The idea is to harmonize the different murals and highlight the
3 historical environment with a base of the fish as a reference to the river and its urban importance. He
4 suggested a placement in the tunnel based on the use of light. It integrates into the stone in the tunnel.
5 They are discussing if the stone can be painted or if murals can only be painted on cement.

6
7 Nicholas Cain, and a team of other artists, submitted a proposal but did not attend the meeting. The
8 proposed design would be very large, 14 feet high and stretching 120 feet toward the center of the tunnel.
9 A shorter version is also proposed. It was suggested to be installed near the West entrance near Goss
10 Logan and stretch toward the center of the tunnel. The mural shows a parade through the tunnel,
11 illustrating Lebanon's culture and activities using Lebanon landmarks and the historical growth of the
12 City.

13
14 Marley Dube sent a proposal for a 25 by 7 mural with abstract colors and a feeling of nature. It depicts
15 the sun, the moon and eyes on a face.

16
17 ***Devin Wilkie MOVED to recommend all 5 submissions presented tonight.***
18 ***Second by Nick Gaffney.***

19
20 ****The Motion was unanimously approved.***

21
22 The Commission discussed making posters to announce the call for Mural artists in the future, as it is
23 believed many individuals who would be interested in submitting proposals may not be hearing about
24 Lebanon's call for tunnel art.

25 26 **B. SPENCER STREET DEVELOPMENT**

27
28 Chair Giovanni spoke about Spencer Street. The old DPW building location now has a proposal from a
29 contractor. They are thinking about having art space within the building, a playground, and 80 units for
30 below median income residents. The lower level would be live work units. There were 3 submissions
31 from contractors and this one, that happened to include art, was the best submission. The Commission
32 would like to connect with the contractors regarding art within the construction. Kristine will reach out to
33 the contractor.

34 35 **C. POETRY CONTEST.**

36
37 There are 3 days left for submissions. Eight people have made submissions, several from each author.
38 DPW said there will be some concrete repairs on the Mall, and some of the poetry could be installed on
39 the Mall.

40 41 **4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

42
43 A. The Music festival was a couple of weekends ago and the weather was excellent. Events went
44 throughout Saturday and Sunday. The Busking was a huge success. There was a sing and play
45 along, featuring folk songs. Next year is the 30-year anniversary and Sing and Play will be a
46 feature. The Nexus Festival Band, which involves area high schools, is coming together as well.
47 Camps are upcoming.

48
49 B. AVA was recognized by the New Hampshire Business Association for their collaboration work
50 with outside organizations. AVA would like to take the lead to paint the covers for the fountain
51 in the Center of the green. Once there is space available at AVA the covers could be moved to
52 AVA. There was a reminder discussion about bringing panels out to the farmers market and
53 including something with a Pride motif. AVA is proposing to do covers for one fountain each
54 year.

1 C. Brian Cook said the Lebanon Opera House Pride Picnic will be June 14. Joan Osbourne will be
2 playing at Nexus this year. They are making new announcements about Nexus.

3
4 D. Lebanon Recreation has all the summer music arranged. They intend to send out a postcard to
5 see if it helps bring people to the green for the music. Hopefully postcards will be hung on the
6 fridge to remind people to come out for the music. This is week 3 of the market. The music will
7 start a half hour earlier this year, at 6:30, to overlap with the market.
8

9 **5. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

10
11 None
12

13 **6. ADJOURNMENT**

14
15 *Chair Giordani Adjourned the meeting at 7:39 PM.*
16

17 Respectfully submitted,
18 Linda Billings
19 Recording Secretary

Call for Proposals:
Public Art Celebrating Lebanon, New Hampshire's Transportation History
Downtown Lebanon Tunnel

In collaboration with the Lebanon Arts and Culture Commission, the Lebanon Heritage Commission requests proposals for a work of public art to be displayed in the Downtown Lebanon Tunnel.

The Heritage Commission is **seeking artworks recognizing the transportation history of Lebanon**. Potential subjects could include:

- Rivers and waterways, including the Connecticut and Mascoma Rivers
- The railroad
- Roads, including rural routes, turnpikes, and highways
- Vehicles, including stagecoach, canoe, automobile, or train
- Air travel

Projects that highlight other aspects of Lebanon's history, especially its indigenous history, are also welcome.

Artists or teams of artists of all experiences are encouraged to apply, especially local artists from the Upper Valley and the northern New England region.

Setting

The pedestrian tunnel serves as a connection between the Mascoma River Greenway and the Northern Rail Trail. It is located beneath Hanover Street and the Lebanon Mall, with entrances near Goss Logan Insurance (western entrance) and the Ledyard Charter School (eastern entrance). The tunnel was originally an open-air railroad line on the Northern Railroad until the area was covered and converted into a tunnel during urban renewal in the late 1960s.

The tunnel is 350 feet long and the walls are roughly 18 feet in height. Artistic installations and murals can occupy any unadorned section of the tunnel walls, excluding the granite stones at the eastern end. Previously installed artworks include murals and sculptures, but proposals for artwork of any medium that can be executed and displayed within the space are welcome. Artworks should be composed of materials that will be able to withstand year-round outdoor public display for approximately 10 years.

Application Process

Applicants are strongly encouraged to tour the tunnel prior to submission. Applicants should then complete the online application by [deadline]. [link]

The application should include:

- Sketches, scale models, or other visual mock-ups of the proposed design;
- A list of materials;

- A detailed written description of the installation processes, including time estimates for execution and installation;
- The estimated size and dimensions of the finished artwork; and
- A project narrative, briefly describing 1) the artist(s)'s experience with the chosen artistic media and 2) the artist(s)'s interest in the project.

Applications will be presented to the public and to the Lebanon Heritage Commission at the Commission's next scheduled meeting. The Commission will then vote to recommend a proposal to be approved by the Arts and Culture Commission by the City Manager's office.

Logistics

The successful proposal will be eligible for technical assistance from the City of Lebanon for installation in the tunnel. The artist(s) are expected to be primarily responsible for creating and installing the artwork, however. The selected artwork will be executed and installed during Summer 2024, and should be fully completed by early Fall 2024.

The completed artwork will be owned by the City of Lebanon. Artworks are expected to be on display for up to 10 years, but are not intended to be permanent, and the City of Lebanon reserves the right to remove the artwork at any time. However, any modifications to the completed artwork will occur in consultation with the artist.

The artist(s) responsible for the winning proposal will receive:

- An award stipend of no less than \$2,000, plus potential added reimbursement for materials & installation expenses, depending on the scale and scope of the project;
- Technical assistance, as noted above;
- Exposure in a scenic and well-traveled pedestrian tunnel;
- A plaque in the tunnel identifying the artist(s), year installed, and description of the work;
- Recognition in online promotional materials, social media, and press releases to local and regional media outlets; and
- Formal recognition at an unveiling celebration in Fall 2024.