



**LEBANON ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 - 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. Meeting Minutes 7-22-2025
 - 3. Other Business**
 - A. Chair and Vice Chair
 - B. Council Updates
 - C. AVA - Request for support to restore/repaint fountain covers \$250
 - D. Membership Recruitment
 - E. Poetry Stamping
 - F. Tunnel Art
 - 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 who wish to attend remotely may do so by going to [LebanonNH.gov/Live](https://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 disrupt virtual or phone connection(s), the meeting will continue without remote access capabilities.

Any person with a disability who wishes to attend this public meeting and needs additional accommodation, please contact the ADA coordinator at City Hall by calling 603-448-4220 at least 72 hours in advance so that the City can make any necessary arrangements.

1 discussed determining if the lights would interfere with any other lights during other celebrations. They
2 could consider a test run to see how things work and then determine if the installation would continue.
3 The members suggest that the City maintains control. The proposal is under the public art display, which
4 means the City has ultimate control over the artwork.
5

6 The members would make a recommendation with consideration. The City Manager has final approval.
7 It is likely that the cost of electricity is minimal but that needs to be evaluated. It also requires
8 consideration of how this affects the total electricity supply at the band stand for other purposes.
9

10 Devon Blanchard is offering to donate his time and effort, and the actual lights. Public art installations
11 include a small sign stating the person doing the installation. It is possible that the lights could be put up
12 for a temporary event that will be August 2. After that it would be determined if the lights would
13 continue to be installed. The members want to make sure the installation does not interfere with any of
14 the upcoming events on the Green in August.
15

16 The members are supportive if the Rec Dept is managing the requirements and conditions, based on the
17 wants and needs of the department.
18

19 **B. Opera House Chalking**
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21 The Opera House asked to do an installation for Chalking during Nexus. It is typically done every year.
22 The members were supportive.
23

24 **4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**
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26 There is no longer a Chair, but the Commission has a Vice Chair. There are several open positions as
27 well, and 2 vacant alternate spots. There is no representation from the EVEC and Heritage committees.
28 There are openings for Ward 2 and an Arts position.
29

30 Some interpretations say quorum is based on the number of seats, not on the number of members. The
31 reason it is being brought up is that the make-up of the Board may need to be changed to make sure a
32 quorum is present for meetings. Perhaps two seats should be removed by the City Council, Heritage and
33 EVEC. Right now, there is not anyone to fill those positions. The Commission wants to get clarity about
34 the parameters of the number and types of members that should be on the Commission. It was discussed
35 if members need to be residents or Arts organizations have to be from Lebanon. They will try to craft a
36 policy that is inclusive as well as flexible and bring it back in September after further review.
37

38 The members are planning to vote for a new Chair at the Fall meetings. They will also try a small
39 recruitment effort to bring in new members. They will also make an effort to work with the City Council
40 to define the number of members for the Commission.
41

42 **A. Arts Organization Updates: LOH, AVA, UVMC, and others present**
43

44 AVA has many summer camps ongoing. There is an art opening this week and one next month. They are
45 planning an event called Summer Sizzler. There will be hot dogs at the event. Exhibitions of artists will
46 open in October. The new Executive Director is invited to the September meeting of this Commission.
47

48 LOH is doing several things, including an exciting Nexus. All stages will be in the park. They are also
49 ramping up to an exciting Fall season with a range of artists coming through, with enough time to get
50 local events and student performances on the calendar. They are excited about the Fall residents.
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52 The Rec Department has the music concerts on Thursday. The Children's series wraps up the end of July.
53 Some people have asked where the Monday night concerts went, but due to budget cuts it was dropped.
54 Fairlee has large artists events that are free on Thursdays, with is some competition for Lebanon
55 audiences. The Farmer's Market is going strong.

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B. City Council, DEI, Heritage (D. Wilkie)

5. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

No comments.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Nick Gaffney Adjourned the meeting at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Billings
Recording Secretary

ARTICLE X, Arts and Culture Commission

§31-43. Establishment; Membership; Qualifications.

- A. Pursuant to Chapter ~~C419:233.08~~ of the Lebanon City Charter, there is hereby established an Arts and Culture Commission. The Commission shall consist of ~~nine~~ seven voting members, including: one City Councilor; three citizen representatives, ~~one from each City ward; one representative from the Heritage Commission; one representative from the Economic Development Commission (EDC);~~ and three representatives from arts organizations within the City. The Mayor may, in lieu of appointing a City Councilor to the committee, ask the City Council to appoint a suitable person to fill the position that would normally be filled by a City Councilor. The Council may appoint not more than three alternate members, one of which may be a City Councilor and two of which may be Lebanon residents at large. At all times, a majority of the non-alternate members shall be Lebanon residents.
- B. The citizen representatives shall be appointed by the City Council and their terms shall initially be staggered for periods of one, two, and three years. Thereafter, all citizen representatives shall be appointed to terms of three years. The arts organization members shall serve for one-year terms and shall be appointed by the Council. The City Council representatives shall serve for their respective terms and shall be appointed by the Mayor. ~~The Heritage Commission and EVEC shall appoint a representative from their respective bodies.~~ The City Council shall act within 60 days to fill vacancies.
- C. In determining each member's qualifications, the appointing authority shall take into consideration the appointee's demonstrated interest and ability to understand, appreciate and promote the purpose of the Arts and Culture Commission.

§31-44. Purposes.

The Arts and Culture Commission is hereby established for the purposes of:

- A. Promoting arts and cultural activities throughout all three wards of the City of Lebanon;
- B. Cultivating relationships, activities and opportunities to grow Lebanon's cultural economy;
- C. Supporting the development of public-private partnerships that enhance the quality of life and economic vitality in Lebanon;
- D. Establishing policies for consideration and adoption by the Lebanon City Council for the integration of arts into all municipal buildings, structures, and spaces;
- E. Establishing policies for consideration and adoption by the Lebanon City Council defining prospective spaces for, forms of, and processes for the adoption of public art in Lebanon.

§31-45. Duties and Responsibilities.

The duties and responsibilities of the Arts and Culture Commission will include:

- A. Establishing working subcommittees that serve to advance the Commission's work within the more focused areas identified by the Arts and Culture Task Force (e.g. city policy, finance, partnerships, organizational structure, data collection, designation of cultural districts);

- B. Designating signature events and working with the City Council and City Administration to implement and promote those events to residents and visitors;
- C. Updating and taking a leading role in the implementation of Chapter 12 of the Lebanon Master Plan (Community Design and Civic Art) to incorporate the work of the Commission and develop an independent guiding document for arts within the City;
- D. ~~Meeting at minimum one per month.~~
- E. Working towards the purchase and installation of fountains within the City by raising funds; coordinating volunteer efforts; locating fountains for purchase by the City; and developing plans for the location of fountains. City Council approval is required prior to the installation of any new fountain.

Section [56](#). Severability

The provisions of this ordinance are delated to be severable, and if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or part thereof, for any reason, is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or part of this ordinance.

Section [67](#). Effective Date

This Ordinance shall become effective upon passage.