

Public Arts Commission
North Adams, Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2016

The North Adams Public Arts Commission held a public meeting on February 4, 2016 at City Hall's law library, 10 Main Street, North Adams.

Members Present: Erica Manville, Chairperson
Julia Dixon, Vice Chairperson
Cynthia Quiñones, Secretary
Eric Kerns
Gail Kolis Sellers
William C. Blackmer, Jr.

Absent: Nancy Ziter

Also Present: none

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Manville called the meeting to order at 4:08p.m.

READING OF THE MINUTES

Manville moved to accept Public Arts Commission minutes from its January 12, 2016 public meeting. Sellers seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed.

INVENTORY OF PREVIOUS PUBLIC ART IN NORTH ADAMS

Members discuss an inventory of public art in North Adams obtained by Dixon. It was noted that many of the listed items were in public view, however, not on public property, and revisions to the list were made.

Dixon volunteered to research the ownership of the overpass and bus stop, and also to reach out to the artists involved in painting the mural on the back of the Mohawk Theatre to ask them to waive their VARA rights.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATIONS

Members reviewed a draft of an artist application created by Ziter. Kerns suggested the possible creation of a two-step application process, beginning with a shorter, simpler "Intent to Submit" form.

REVIEW OF RESEARCH OF OTHER CITIES' PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSIONS

Sellers, Quiñones, and Manville presented information on their research of Public Arts Commissions in like communities. This led to a discussion about whether or not the arts are included in city's Vision 20/30 Plan. Dixon volunteered to research this information.

It was also agreed that the group would review the sites recommended by Sellers before our next meeting, as well as the minutes of the PAC in Salem, MA, and the Master Plan of the PAC in Ashland, OR.

PURPOSE STATEMENT PROPOSALS

After some discussion of proposed purpose statements, Dixon moved to accept the following:

The North Adams Public Arts Commission provides guidance and support to artists seeking to create public art and enhance the quality of life in the City of North Adams.

Manville seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed.

MEMBER CONCERNS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future agenda items will include the creation of the PAC Vision Statement (for the website), the role of the arts in the Vision 20/30 Plan, and further review of the artist application process.

Kerns suggested that the creation of a public directory of artists in North Adams be added to a future agenda.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Public Arts Commission will occur on February 25 at 4:00p.m. at Colgrove Park Elementary School.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, Manville moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:28p.m. Kerns seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Quiñones, Secretary