



**Public Arts Commission
North Adams, Massachusetts**

Meeting Minutes

June 29, 2017

The North Adams Public Arts Commission held a public meeting on June 29, 2017 at the Eclipse Mill Gallery at the Eclipse Mill Artist Lofts, 243 Union Street #102, North Adams.

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

Absent: Eric Kerns

Also Present: Tammy Daniels
 Bill Oberst
 Christina King
 Stephanie Vanbramer
 Donna Motta

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Dixon called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Ziter moved to accept the Public Arts Commission minutes from its June 7, 2017 public meeting. Vice Chairperson Manville seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed.

HARMONIC BRIDGE/ART ABOUT TOWN PILLARS DISCUSSION

Manville reported on her meeting with Jodi Joseph and Larry Smallwood (from Mass MoCA) to establish a more direct line of communication between the museum and the Public Arts Commission. Manville noted that they were receptive to the idea, and that Joseph agreed to try to attend the next Public Arts Commission meeting. Manville will be emailing commission minutes, agendas, and meeting updates to them from here on out.

Bill Oberst and Christina King shared details from their recent meeting with Joe Thompson regarding the murals that had been painted over under the Veterans Memorial Bridge. The discussion focused on restoration of the murals, as they had initially been protected with an anti-graffiti sealant. Ziter suggested to Oberst and King that, since the pillars belong to the city, their next step should be submitting a proposal to the commission to restore the artwork.

DONNA MOTTA PROPOSAL REVIEW

Donna Motta presented information to the commission about a plan to create three 4 x 8 ' art panels as part of a cultural awareness festival taking place at the Heritage State Park. Since the ultimate location of the panels has not yet been selected, Dixon told Motta that it would be premature to submit a proposal to the commission. Potential locations for the artwork, several on private property, were suggested for consideration. Ziter recommended asking participants in the project to waive their rights to the artwork. Dixon offered to speak with a copyright lawyer about creating the appropriate language for the waivers.

REVISED APPLICATION REVIEW

Dixon presented the commission with a revised draft of the public art application. After reviewing the application, Ziter moved to accept its new form. Manville seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed.

CONTRACTS/AGREEMENT DISCUSSION

The contract discussion will be postponed to a future meeting.

PUBLIC ATTENDEES CONCERNS

None presented.

MEMBER CONCERNS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Ziter commented on the painting of the compass at the airport and noted that it should have come through the commission as a public art project.

Dixon spoke on her research into the creation of "Friends of..." groups, and noted that the lack of physical assets makes the Public Arts Commission an unlikely focus for such a fundraising group. Instead, she proposed that we pursue the creation of a cultural plan to guide future projects and fundraising efforts. Quiñones suggested that the commission hold a public forum to pool ideas and

encourage community involvement. The commission agreed to add this item to the next agenda for further discussion.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Public Arts Commission (as determined later by a Doodle poll) will be Tuesday, July 25, at 5:30p.m. at the Eclipse Mill.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, Ziter moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m. Manville seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Quiñones, Secretary