

**CITY OF NORWALK
ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 1, 2024**

ATTENDANCE: Brian Kaspr, Chair; Bob Abriola, Nori Grudin, Melissa Matuska, Janay Sylvester, Naomi Clark (6:05 p.m.)

OTHERS Sabrina Godeski, Diane Lauricella

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kaspr called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Kaspr called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Diane Lauricella greeted the Commissioners and said that she was looking forward to the open house to meet the muralists. She is not against muralists, but she was not pleased with the selection method. She said that she would like to have some of the creatures from the inland watersheds to be included in the design.

She added that she would like to offer some ideas for additional regional art exposure projects like an Art Trail, similar to the one that Bridgeport has.

Ms. Clark joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

She said that they should consider holding celebratory events connected to other events such as Earth Day and stated she was willing to help with organizing an event like that.

Mr. Kaspr said that he would like to see more members of the public participating.

IV. ADMINISTRATION

- a. Approve the minutes of the August 6, 2024, meeting of the Arts and Cultural Commission.**

**** MR. ABRIOLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 2024, MEETING OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL COMMISSION.**

The following correction was noted:

Page 2, under New Business, Item C – paragraph 3, line 1, please change “Mr. listed potential” to “Mr. Alan listed potential”

Page 3, under Events Updates, paragraph 2, line 1, please change “Mr. Kasper” to “Mr. Kaspr”

Page 3, under Events Updates, paragraph 11, line 1, please change “Ms. Sylvestor” to “Ms. Sylvester”.

**** MS. GRUDIN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 2024, MEETING OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL COMMISSION AS CORRECTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Budget Review – Bob Abriola & Sabrina Godeski

Mr. Abriola said that there had not been any changes. Ms. Godeski said that there were some small bills that would show up in the next meeting and that some capital funding was going to be used to clean up the MLK stairs and reviewed some other pending expenses along with the Capital Account figures.

Discussion followed about the sealing of the artwork on the stairs.

b. Event Updates – Janay Sylvester

Ms. Sylvester said that they had discussed a number of different events such as a kick off event and the marketing communication portion. She said that it might be possible to hold one event this year in order to connect with the community. She said that she had met with the Space 67 about holding an event there free of charge. She suggested either Tuesday, November 12th, Wednesday, November 13th or Thursday, November 14th as potential dates. Discussion followed about bringing in as many of the art organizations as possible and creating a number of work streams.

Mr. Kaspr encouraged everyone to let Ms. Sylvester what areas they would be interested in helping with. Ms. Godeski asked for a copy of the Ms. Sylvester’s plan.

c. Website Updates – Melissa Matuska

Mr. Kaspr said that he was excited to see this moving forward. Ms. Matuska said that she wanted to make sure she was on the right track. She then displayed some website pages and suggested adding a sub menu for Arts on the Visit Norwalk.org page. Ms. Matuska spoke about potential ways they could include some artists such as musicians, galleries, visual arts and other artistic events. She pointed out that the Norwalk Arts Council is focused on the administration and nuts

and bolts while the Visit Norwalk site is more event orientated. Discussion followed about the details.

Ms. Matuska said that she would continue forward and updating the ten year old Arts brochure.

d. General Committee Member Updates

Mr. Kaspr said that Ms. Sylvester would be singing Pop and R&B with a live band in Brooklyn.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

a. West Avenue Wall Mural & Event Update – Brian Kaspr

Mr. Kaspr said that the murals were in town and on the wall. He encouraged everyone to visit. The Mural event will be held on the 6th from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The ArtSpace will be doing a mural workshop that will end at 2, so Mr. Kaspr hopes that people will flow over into their event.

Ms. Matuska asked if they could create a flyer that the BOE could distribute to the students. Ms. Godeski said that they had already done one and sent it over the BOE Media department. She said that she would follow up on this.

Ms. Grudin suggested that they send some info to the Library and having flyers available there. Ms. Godeski said that this could be done.

Ms. Grudin thanked Mr. Kaspr for prepping the wall and Ms. Sylvester for filming it. Mr. Kaspr said that Mr. Alan and Mr. Rust were also there.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. MATUSKA MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MR. ABRIOLA SECONDED**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services