

East Windsor Arts and Culture Meeting

Minutes

4/9/24

6:30 PM

East Windsor Town Hall

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting

I. Call to Order/Attendance

At 6:32 p.m. Debbie Williams called the meeting to order. The commission members present were Sharon Aprea, Bernie Duffy, Christina Posniak, and Debbie Williams; also including commission liaison Jeff Holcombe.

Debbie started a moment of remembrance for the late Arts and Culture Committee member, Al Zeigler, on the second anniversary of his passing this past week.

II. Approval of minutes of 3/12/24 Meeting

Debbie inquired if we had a chance to review the minutes from the March 12 meeting. Bernie made a motion to approve the March minutes and Sharon seconded this motion concluding that all were in favor.

III. Added agenda items?

a. Birdhouses

b. Board of Selectman meeting

Debbie gave similar presentations at the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectman meetings. We officially asked for \$4,100. Debbie went to the Board of Selectman meeting and the commission versus committee was on the agenda and Debbie informed them that we were going to stay a committee. Committee members need to re-up . Debbie will touch place with Melissa how to re-up and Debbie will report back. Debbie got some positive feedback about the committee's work which is always nice to hear.

IV. BoF presentation/Budget

We will discuss the budget at our next meeting following the Arts and Culture Day. We're going to discuss some of our big ideas.

Committee members voted to approve purchases made in advance of Arts and Culture Day including a shirt for Kristin Blume at a cost of \$54, promotions at \$450, and \$280 for Charlie Nordelli who produced the birdhouses. Charlie did such a tremendous job, and we are so grateful; he prepared all the birdhouse kits. Debbie went over the list of birdhouse and categories that will be judged. We could do gift cards for the award winner.

V. On-going projects

a. EWHHS Graduation Boards

We have about one half of the number that we need, but we are not in a rush yet as we don't need them for a month or two.

b. BBES Rock River

The students don't paint the rocks until May.

c. Performance artist event (open mic) at Trolley Museum 4.27.24

We're struggling with the open mic night, but we have marketing that has been going out. We are now up to six participants, all of them are different kinds of musical participants. Debbie has reached out to the library poetry club. If we end up with ten that would be good. We will record it and use it as good marketing and PR for future events.

Community Colleges in the area might be good to inquire to. Starting next week it will be part of Jason Bowsa's weekly calls.

d. Arts and Culture Day 2024 5.18.23

i. Khamp-confirmed, project TBD

ii. Bottle cap project: ideas:

Bernie has a beautiful sunset landscape painting that Sharon and Bernie will collaborate to create a template for the bottle cap art installation.

iii. Picnic table

Debbie showed us the mockup of the picnic table that will be painted with a picture of hummingbirds. It is a beautiful and creative draft.

iv. Food

Three trucks are confirmed.

v. Vendors 7-9 vendors

We are going to decline the soap lady as the committee agreed that this was a craft and not art.

vi. Signs

We agreed to spend \$200 for 15 signs and make the font bigger.

vii. Promotional giveaway

viii. Music

Three acts confirmed.

VI. New/Future Projects

a. Decommissioned bus shelter

Still sitting in Hartford until we pay for it, but the artist is not back yet anyway.

b. Mural at WHP Library

The mural is on hold until it aligns with the completion of the new entryway. Debbie encouraged Alex to speak with Matt Conway and Alex did not show up for the meeting.

c. Mural at American Legion

There is an artist chosen who is a house painter and a muralist. Matt Conway is writing up a proposal. Debbie found a grant for it, and she will apply.

d. Other

We could consider reviving the possible project of retaining wall alongside highway near the Burger King along 140. Jim Balch owns the land near Burger King. Could be one of the largest murals in the area.

VII. Communication

a. BoF

b. DAS

c. BBE/EWMS

d. Khamp

e. BBOH/OHP

f. Cathy Doner

g. James Barton/Chris Gann

VIII. Public Participation

IX. Adjourn

Debbie adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Posniak, *East Windsor Arts and Culture Committee Recording Secretary*