

Montpelier Public Art Commission – Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday June 21, 2023 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Meeting remote –

In attendance: Josh, Jody, Bob, Jesse, Abena, Rob

Opening Process:

1. Call to order:
2. Rob made motion to approve the Agenda. Bob 2nd – unanimous approval.
3. Jody made Motion to add additional Agenda item – Project Expenditure. Jesse 2nd, unanimous approval.
4. Rob Made Motion to approve Project Expenditure Funding, Bob 2nd
it: \$150 for each new sign: Preservation Mural, (2)x Gateway Mural Signage (\$300), up to \$25 for reimbursement of expenses for Arcana High School Project Panel, and \$114 for John Miller (remaining of \$150) for Rec Center Mural Signage. unanimous approval.
5. Approved Minutes from 5/17/23 - Rob made motion to approve minutes. Jody 2nd – unanimous approval.
6. Bob made motion to approve the Special Meeting Meetings. Rob 2nd. unanimous approval.
7. No Community Comments

Progress on Existing Works:

- **Transit Center Installation:**
 - Josh said Ward gave the city council the update on the project and official “ask” and it was approved
 - Abena presented slides for the project
 - Bob made motion to allocate project budget of \$7,000, Jesse 2nd, Abena abstained - unanimous vote to accept.
 - Bob will contact Green Mountain Transit on access of space and list of other items needed to begin chalking and painting in August.
- **Building Owners Matching Grant:**
 - Bob made this public and now waiting for allocations
 - No due date on this project
 - Work to be done: Gather responses and jury them per schedule
- **Gateway Park Murals:** Ward
 - Jody (per Ward) announced 3 applications were submitted
 - 3 applications to review (Carolyn, Ward) per schedule.
 - We will still need State Approval, Cemetery Board engagement prior to execute.
 - Ward will make those contacts and do update next meeting.
- **Clothes Pins Sculpture:** Jesse w/ Josh’s help
 - Jesse updated: Awaiting news on a possibly available site. Filled out an application and found site on the path on Pedestrian Bridge is owned by Bashera family – need their permission and they have not yet responded. Other sites were ruled out:
 - Rob asked about Tourist Info bldg. – Josh said no – city has no plans to remove.

- The other possibility was the original site. Jesse met with Public Works and said it “can be done” if it was moved 8 feet closer to Main Street to maneuver snow removal, but they vetoed it.
- Jesse said when the project is “green lighted” all repairs to the piece requested will be made.
- **Vine Lights Maintenance:** Done, needs signage
 - Bob and Rob took down old lights and installed new ones. They stopped working.
 - Sunday at 4:00 pm going to check them or replace them.
 - \$150 was voted and allocated for lights 4/19 minutes.
- **Shaw’s Mural:** Graffiti proofing need to do it. Voted to allocate up to \$2,000 for Graffiti materials minutes 4/19.
 - Bob will order immediately and it was agreed to cover complete mural.
- **Counter Rotation:**
 - Bob gave info to Sign Designs and it’s on their docket. He hasn’t heard from them.
- **High School Arcana Panels:**
 - Installation complete. They were graffiti coated. They need signage.
 - Rob said he was waiting on text for signage that mentions Arcana Workshop.
- **Permanent Frames for Art on Buildings:**
 - Rob: On hold for now.
- **Langdon Street Bridge Decommissioning:** Ward to do it – need his update.
- **Projector RFP:** On hold for now. Need new person to work on this.
- **Signage of existing works:** Jody and Jesse, “Perseverance” coming.
 - Gave Dana signage for Two Gateway murals to be attached on mural corner.
 - It was agreed that two-tier design of signage are needed – one smaller and simpler than Shaw’s.
 - Jesse needs a template for 3: Vines, Birds & Bees, and High School Arcana Panels
 - A bulk number is needed to approve for signage
- **Lighting the Bridges:** Bob said group assembled and added a Humanities Grant to cover a research piece. First bridge to be lit will be in 2024. Eventually every bridge in Montpelier.
- **Micro Grants: on hold**

Commission Business:

- **Grant Writing:** Arts Council Grant done waiting on late August approval.
- **Presentation to City Council:** Ward did it and will recount next meeting. Next year do it in the fall.
- **Budget Update:** Jody said July 1st budget coming for next year. We are getting \$10,000 - city approved Josh said.
- **Commission Leadership:** Ward to step down from Chair soon – Asked if anyone was interested in Commission leadership. Jody might know someone. Rob will work some folks again. Hoping Ward will do one more month.
- **Montpelier Community Fund:** Director Sarah Jarvis invited Bob. He attended and waiting for Ward to give update next meeting.

- **Country Club Development by City:** Josh said next design phase was in transition. He's hoping the city council will approve the Master Plan by June 28th. He said not much input from PAC. Spoke of possible community center or art component in the works at Vermont Fine Arts College.

Subcommittees:

- **Artist Contracts:** Bob said he was happy to take this on. He has a contract he wrote for the Clothes Pins and a template for future contracts which don't need city approval. He said we can use that. They need to be formalized: payment at onset, maintenance, right to remove, liability for installations by others

Commission Internal Projects:

- **Fund Raising Plan:** to organize ourselves for city budget request by late fall.
 - **Formalize subcommittees:** skipped
 - **New projects:** Paused
 - **Website:** how to get items on the City's page
 - **City-wide art map:** Bob sent info to Josh. Josh said the map is to be online – Arts & Culture Component that will indicate projects PAC have done and go out to community this Fall. Jesse said he'd love to have a map that we can show to public various works we are doing – QR coded. Jody asked if online map could be turned into a brochure to do art walk around Montpelier. Need to ask the city.
 - **Maintenance plan:** Ongoing

Closing Process:

- Next Meeting time: July 26th, 5:00 pm
- Adjourn