

Montpelier Public Art Commission – Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday April 14, 2023 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Opening Process:

1. Call to order: all present: Abena, Ward, Bob, Jesse, Rob, Jody, Judith
2. Approved meeting's Minutes from 6/21/23. All approved, Judith abstained
 - Intro of Judith to the Commission (new member's first meeting) She's an Architectural Historian. Art director, exhibit director.
 - Abena stated that she wants to step slightly back, but stay in. Commission saw not problem with that level of engagement
 - Introductions made by everyone to Judith
3. Opportunity for "**Community Comment**"
 - DJ Barry joined us to propose World Cow mural on wall at southwest corner of Main & River Road. The commission asked him to formally propose the project with community engagement, which he suggested.

Progress on Projects:

1. **Transit Center Installation:** piece got tagged and repaired. Graffiti proofing w/ low v.o.c. paint by committee members was scheduled for June 15.
Signage for piece: ready to be done. There was some discussion about revising to copy on the sign to address the lack of features on the faces, and Abena was to review the sign and submit an edit to Jody.
2. **New agenda item;** financial update from Josh: \$32k in the city fund for the commission (\$22k existing + \$10k new in 2024) We are still in spending freeze till July 1, but we can push things through the pipeline with that date in mind. \$5k more is also coming from Montpelier Alive.
3. **Building Owners Matching Grant:**
 - RFP is out on the street
 - Lead on project: Bob Hannum and Jesse
 - Work to be done: Gather responses and jury them per schedule
Jesse explained intent of matching grant. We should re-issue the rfp.
Send to Judith so she can read. Jesse will review and send around.
 - Motion by Jody for editing of the dates from last year to this spring/summer, and to put it out again through city. Abena 2nd' Approved unanimously.
4. **Gateway Park Murals:** Ward
 - We had two artists selected: Wyatt Cunningham and Erok, then we paused the project.
 - A motion was made to refund the project by Abena. Bob 2nd it.
Approved unanimously.
Ward to reach out to the two artists

Clothes Pins Sculpture: Jesse and Bob updated: MA raised the funds privately. Waiting for approval by Zoning or Design Review. Rob and Jesse will renew the permit application.

Press release by someone other than Jesse.

5. **Shaws Mural:** Graffiti proofing to be done by commission on June 15. We need to replace the sign and date the piece – Ward will do it next to name
6. **Counter Rotation:** Bob
Bob is waiting for a new sign.
7. **Arcana Panels:** Rob is doing it with high school. No cost to city. MA paid for supplies. Rob will orchestrate.
8. **Permanent Frames for Art on Buildings:**
Rob: On hold for now, but we want revisit this fall.
9. **Projector RFP:** On hold for now
10. **Signage of existing works:** Jody and Jesse, “Perseverance” coming.
 - We need to determine if there’s a smaller size, Jody will present at next.
 - We also need a ground-mounted signage system
 - Ward reports that the sign on Shaws is better than sign on Rec. Center Piece.
Let’s do more of these.
11. Jody: 4 signs ready to go. Gateway, Shaws, Transit Center. Need improvement on anchoring system. \$496 total. Ready to submit to city and they will push them forward. Josh says this can be submitted for July payment.
12. Jody to begin next round. QR codes can be added to signs
13. DJ Bary’s request to paint a cow, covered above.
14. Walking Tour of Public Art. By city, Josh is working on it.
15. **Lighting the Bridges:** Bob to stay engaged MA to take on. Bob proposes to be discussed next meeting.
16. **Micro Grants:** on hold
17. **Any new projects** – none for now

Commission Business:

1. **Grant Writing:** another Arts Council Grant by May for Transit Center, by Bob
2. **Presentation to City Council:** Ward did it and will again in the fall.
3. **Budget Update,** Jody finding it hard to keep track.
4. **Commission Leadership:** Ward to step down from Chair soon
5. **Montpelier Community Fund:** Director Sarah Jarvis invited Bob to attend
6. **Country Club Development by City:** Participate at next design phase

Subcommittees:

7. **Artist Contracts:** need to be formalized: payment at onset, maintenance, right to remove, liability for installations by others

Commission Internal Projects:

8. **Fund Raising Plan:** to organize ourselves for city budget request by late fall.

- **Formalize subcommittees:**
- **New projects:** Paused
- **Website:** how to get items on the City's page
- **City-wide art map:** Bob sent info to Josh
- **Maintenance plan:** Ongoing

Closing Process:

9. Next Meeting time:

10. Adjourn June 11 @ 5 in hybrid.