

Watertown Public Arts and Culture Committee

Minutes, Monday, November 18, 2024

In Attendance: Matt Hannah, Liz Helfer, Roberta Miller, Jay Wilson, Sally Young, Erin Webb, Archy LaSalle, Barbara Epstein, WCATV

1. Opening Inspiration – Roberta 7:20: Spoke of Watertown Field Hockey's recent championship. Focusing on traditional of excellence and how that parallel to the arts.
2. Approval of October minutes. Barbara moves to approve, Sally seconds, all approve
3. Subcommittee and Project Team Reports
 - a. Outreach
 - i. Matt on the Monthly PACC Arts Bulletin, 45% open which is good as it just went out this afternoon.
 - b. Governance and Funding
 - c. River of Light – Roberta
 - i. Several newcomers came back today at the MCA to start new or finish projects.
 - ii. Merry Mingle at Commanders mansion will have a room to do lanterns. This expands the project to some new participants.
 - iii. Light/fire dancers will be outside. Swati's dancers could be in mainstage
4. Edible Watertown
 - a. Sally- Celebration 04Dec24 at the MCA. All are invited. Especially those that have been involved in EW so far.
 - b. Catalog of kid's drawings will be distributed.
 - c. Erin Proposed a non-alcoholic toast.
 - d. Expert Pairing kicks off this week with many ideas. Next step is paring it down. Installation and event-based project are being considered. Liz is consulting with them.
5. Murals Discussion-
 - a. Kacy Jacksons work- Colors praised and quick impact design.
 - b. Tina Charkarin-There were questions about vinyl on cement.
 - c. Brandon-Question about speech bubbles graffiti arose. Overall artistic creation was praised
6. Mural Decision
 - a. Archy moves to vote on selecting Brandon's design Seconded by Erin Decision was unanimous to select Brandon's as the Gorky Muralist.
7. Community Sculpture Walk Selection
 - a. All proposals were reviewed amongst the group
 - b. 3 Were decided as favorites. Serotonin, Empathy, Octopus's Garden
 - c. Existing piece to stay priority was between Inheritance and Opposition
 - i. Opposition is priority, and inheritance is second choice
 - ii. Motioned by Barbara, seconded by Erin, decision was unanimous to select those 3 and give priority to existing pieces accordingly.
8. Liz and team acknowledge Watertown's distinction as cultural district.
9. One community visitor agreed with all our selections.
10. Next meeting is in January as December is being skipped do to the holidays.

11. New Business-Sally discussed light artist/friend Elaine Buckholtz. Sally is going to provided tour and see if she's interested in doing a light installation.
12. Erin moves to adjourn, Matt seconds, adjourn at 8:35.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Wilson

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