

CITY CLERK
GLOUCESTER, MA

GLOUCESTER COMMITTEE FOR THE ARTS

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**Minutes of Meeting Held on 1 August 2019
Gloucester City Hall, Office of the Mayor**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken
Judith Hoglander, Chair

Robert Haverkamp, Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Avery McNiff

Catherine Ryan

GUEST:

Linda Harvey, Executive Director, Hammond Castle Museum

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Judith at 5:15 pm.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 15 MAY 2019

A motion by the Mayor, seconded by Judith, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15 June was approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no Treasurer's Report.

OLD BUSINESS

BRONZE WORK UPDATES

Marine Painting – The new plaque has been installed and repositioned so that it is easier to read. The light still needs to be lowered.

Tablet Rock – James Montgomery (New England Sculpture Service) has examined the bronze plaque; Judith distributed his report (attached). His conclusion was that the surface of the plaque is in good condition. His restoration proposal: "Simple water cleaning, followed by repatination of the green patina followed by protective waxing....The area of stone just below the plaque needs to be colored in some way to match the "lichened" color of the rest of Tablet Rock." Judith will consult with Rebecca Reynolds to draft a letter to be sent to Roger Armstrong and his investors recommending the proposed restoration. She will send the draft letter to Committee members for review. There was a motion by the Mayor, seconded by Robert, to provide that, once Committee members give their comments, the Chair may proceed to finalize the letter and send it out. The motion was approved unanimously. Then, the restoration proposal will come back to the Committee for action. Assuming Committee approval, the next step would be choosing a restorer.

GALLERY HANGING SYSTEM

Judith is working with Matt Swift to better understand what we need and will report back to the Committee at a future meeting.

DONATED MAYORAL PORTRAIT

The Mayor reported that the framed portrait is in storage in City Hall. The subject of the portrait is Frank E. Davis, Mayor of Gloucester in 1898. Based on a label on the back of the frame, the artist is William Paxton. The canvas is very dirty and needs cleaning and some repair. The Committee discussed having someone look at it at no charge to determine what needs to be done. Linda Harvey volunteered a restorer working at the Hammond Castle Museum. Robert agreed to research the Mayor and the painter.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF VETERANS

The Mayor reported that Adam Curcuru, Director of Cape Ann Veterans Services, has said he would display some of the photographs at the Veterans Center. Judith will follow up with the Veterans Center. Judith noted that she is planning to change out some of the photographs in the City Hall Gallery, and Avery has volunteered to make the new labels.

The Mayor reported that Diane Chen, who is planning a glass wall art installation at City Hall, wants to put the names of US armed service members who died in uniform on a glass wall as part of that installation. Currently, there is no way for persons in wheelchairs to see the names on the wall inside City Hall because it is in the stairway.

GLOUCESTER 400TH CELEBRATION

Beth Pocock of the steering committee has asked Judith to serve on the arts and culture committee and one of that committee's subgroups. Judith has agreed and suggested she be involved in the subgroup on the visual arts. Judith reported that Beth and others leading this effort have been very welcoming and interested in getting more residents involved.

NEW BUSINESS

TRAILS AND SAILS

Judith recapitulated the involvement of the Committee over the last several years and suggested that we might be most effective in simply helping Maggie Rosa with the Tower tours, rather than having a separate focus on the murals. She asked members to think about our involvement, then decide our course of action at the next meeting.

STATUS OF MURAL RESTORATION PROJECT

There was a short discussion of the status of this project. The Mayor will ask Community Development Director Jill Cahill for an update. Judith will put this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

NEW MEMBERS

Judith is continuing to reach out to various community leaders to assist in identifying potential new members.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Robert, seconded by the Judith, to adjourn was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Haverkamp, Secretary