

CITY CLERK
GLOUCESTER, MA
2019 APR 29 AM 9:16

GLOUCESTER COMMITTEE FOR THE ARTS

**Minutes of Meeting Held on 18 July 2018
Gloucester City Hall, Third Floor Conference Room**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Judith Hoglander, Chair
Robert Haverkamp, Secretary

Rebecca Reynolds
Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sinikka Nogelo, Treasurer

Catherine Ryan

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Judith at 5:00 pm. Judith welcomed Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor said she wanted to clarify a couple of items. First, she stressed that anytime there is to be any publicity regarding Committee projects or activities or contact with the media by Committee members, that needs to be reviewed and approved in advance with the Chair or herself. If she is contacted first, she will make sure the Chair also is involved. She noted that Committee members often wear multiple hats, and in those situations, any Committee member contact with the media, especially regarding arts matters, can leave the impression that the Committee member is speaking on behalf of the Committee.

The Mayor also said she wants the Committee to be more active and engaged regarding the arts in Gloucester. With the Committee in the lead, she wants the City to be more active in finding public art to be displayed and performed throughout the City and wants the Committee actively involved regarding artistic endeavors throughout all the areas of the City.

Regarding the proposed gift of sculpture by David Black, the Mayor said the Committee first needs to decide whether the City wants this sculpture and whether the proposed site (in Stage Fort Park) is appropriate or should the City do something else. She said she is bringing this project to the Committee now for the Committee's review as the first step to decide whether we want this sculpture and, if so, what site is appropriate. There was a brief discussion regarding the site; the Committee members asked about a site plan; and the Mayor will ask DPW to provide that.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 21 FEBRUARY 2018 MEETING

A motion by Robert, seconded by Rebecca, to approve the minutes of the 16 May 2018 meeting was approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was postponed until the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

CITY HALL ART REPAIRS – BRONZE PLAQUES RESTORATION

Rebecca reported that Robert Shure of Skylight Studios has completed work on the seven bronze plaques. She distributed copies of Shure's treatment report. He charged for the six large plaques (with no charge for the smaller one). The total amount was \$2,400, and that has been paid.

There was a short discussion regarding the plaque for the marine painting and agreement that we would need to have a new plaque made. There apparently is a last letter from the deceased father that might be suitable for framing next to the painting. Judith will contact the daughter about the possibility of using a copy of that letter, explaining the need for a new plaque, and asking for the names of the five service members to be placed on the plaque.

PHOTOGRAPHS RECEIVED BY GLOUCESTER HIGH SCHOOL

Rebecca said she still is trying to locate these photographs.

CIVIL WAR ERA COAT

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

POET LAUREATE

There was a discussion about the future process for awarding this honor. Since there were only two applicants this time, the City has decided not to name a Poet Laureate at this time. Rather, there is a need to improve the process to provide greater outreach and community involvement, especially with Gloucester's writers organizations. Then, with the needed changes to the policy, we can resume and provide for this important position for the benefit of the City. The Mayor asked the Committee to draft a letter to the applicants explaining the situation, and Robert volunteered to do so for review by all.

MURAL RESTORATION UPDATE

An update on the project was postponed until the next meeting. The Mayor said she wants Catherine to provide to her and to the Committee a written report on this project (including the final RFP, the responses, the award, the timeline, and any and all other relevant materials).

TRAILS AND SAILS

Judith reported that there will be no activity by the Committee for this year's program. Susan Erony is not available this year, so Judith told Maggie Rosa and the Cape Ann Museum to go ahead with their programs as they wished. The Committee agreed.

ART POLICY ORDINANCE

The Mayor reiterated that her focus and the focus for the Committee is for the Committee to be more engaged and active with respect to public art projects throughout the City rather than concentrating on redesign of the ordinance.

ART DISCUSSION AT THE AUGUST MEETING

Judith reported that Messrs. Ken Hecht and David Demeter are planning to attend the August meeting to discuss their respective projects.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Rebecca, seconded by Robert, to adjourn was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Haverkamp, Secretary