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GLOUCESTER COMMITTEE FOR THE ARTS

Minutes of Meeting Held on 19 December 2018

Gloucester City Hall, Mayor's Office

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Honorable Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken
Judith Hoglander, Chair
Sinikka Nogelo, Treasurer

Avery McNiff
Rebecca Reynolds

VISITOR PRESENT:

Jill Cahill, Community Development Director

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Robert Haverkamp, Secretary

Catherine Ryan

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Judith at 5:00 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Avery was introduced and welcomed to Committee. Judith presented Sinikka with flowers and thanked her for her dedication and service to the City as a member of the Committee.

Veterans Portraits

The Mayor addressed Jason Grow's offer of photographs of World War II veterans to the City.

Rebecca moved to accept the portraits, Avery seconded and they were unanimously accepted.

The Mayor recommended that the portraits be displayed in various locations throughout the City, where they would be kept safe and be accessible to the public. There was a discussion about rotating the display and focusing on living veterans from Gloucester first. Robert had suggested that a sign be posted with exhibited portraits indicated where additional portraits can be viewed.

Potential locations include with person assigned to investigate potential:

The Veterans' Center - Judith

The Elks - Rebecca

The Veterans' Clinic – Judith

Senior Center - Rebecca

Elevator Hallway

YMCA

Cape Ann Lanes

Schools - Avery

Downtown businesses where veterans congregate – Jill / Judith

The Mayor asked Jill to draft a letter to local businesses.

The Mayor expressed a desire to increase the CftA budget and to hire someone to switch out the portraits.

The schools are potential venues at certain times of year, such as Veterans Day and Memorial Day. Similarly, there may be events at the Legion at which the portraits would be an important addition.

The Mayor noted that the elevator hallway could become a temporary art exhibition space going forward.

Public Art Murals

The Mayor spoke of the potential for murals to tell the story of Gloucester from the Old Salt Factory to St. Peter's Square. She cautioned of the need to be respectful of the local community and the need for a policy and a city ordinance regarding downtown murals.

The Mayor spoke of her wish to have an active poet laureate who would engage the community and participate in programs at least every 3 months. The Mayor would like to see the selection process revisited with more school and senior center participation.

CftA Members

Potential new members were identified. Each will be invited by Judith or Rebecca and, assuming they are willing, will be asked to send letter of intent and resume to Mayor.

A new treasurer is needed. There is a desire to have the new treasurer work with Jill on grants.

OLD BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was decided to postpone the approval of the minutes until the next meeting.

Concern was expressed that the CftA follow Roberts Rules if it is decided to amend the minutes if approved. It was stated that minutes can exist in draft form.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Sinikka related that she needs to confirm that \$4000 is in account, and that there are several items that need to be verified.

The SAM registration, which lists Judith, also needs to be renewed by February/March. This will allow the City to get federal grants. Sinikka's name and email needs to be removed from this list.

The Mayor moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Avery and approved unanimously.

OPEN DISCUSSION

The Mayor questioned whether the Committee needed to meet every month.

The Mayor mentioned that she would like to have Catherine work with Jill and focus on grants.

The Mayor expressed a wish to use City spaces for art shows for artists who do not have galleries.

The Mayor suggested there be an Art Night, possibly in the Summer, for young artists, referring to Pauline Bresnihan. The Mayor wants to bring up new artists, wants to have a day for seniors and another day with young people where they can interact.

What legacy item could the City leave for posterity as part of the 400th celebration? Improvements to Stage Fort Park? A new public sculpture? The Mayor wants CftA to engage with the 400th committee and partner on the iconic events being developed for the celebration. Jill offered to share list of scheduled events. Marie Santos in Jill's office maintains the list for the Special Events Committee. For example, CftA could offer poetry reading during the Annisquam Sea Fair.

The Mayor shared her vision for an event in St. Peter's Square. A flea market with artists, with tables and chairs at night, local businesses could sell 10 things from each of their stores, Gloucester Fresh.....

Could CftA sponsor a bowl painting party for the Empty Bowl of the Open Door?

The goal is to be more present in the community.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Rebecca, seconded by Avery, to adjourn was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Rebecca Reynolds, acting in the absence of
Robert Haverkamp, Secretary