

Gloucester Committee for the Arts
Minutes of Meeting Held on 24 January 2023
City Hall Conference Room

CITY CLERK
GLOUCESTER, MA
2023 MAR -2 AM 10:45

In Attendance:

Karen Ristuben, Chair
Miranda Aisling, Secretary
Philip Storey
Judith Hoglander
Rebecca Reynolds
David Fields, Community Development Coordinator
Chris Griffith, new member
Rebecca Nagle - minutes
David Calvin, new member
Mayor Verga

Called to Order at 8:35am

Approved the December Minutes, motion made by Philip Storey, seconded by Miranda Aisling.

Potential Members

Tracy Gleckner could be a possible new alternate. Karen Ristuben will reach out to her. Miranda also proposed Errol Smikle and Judith and Chris agreed. Judith presented the need for diversity and that all Gloucester geography is represented.

Coordinator Update

David Fields said the position is set for posting within the week. It is 19 hours at \$25,000 for the year with a hope to increase position to full time in near future.

Procedural discussion, motioned by Karen, seconded by Phil.

All separate work projects need to be set in subcommittees.

- Collections Committee, members are Judith, Rebecca R., Karen.
- Policies and Procedures Manual Development Committee, members are Karen, Phil, Miranda
- Each Committee needs to post minutes on the work.

Hiring a Cultural Coordinator Position to aid with master policy and procedure and cultural plan. Karen updated new members on the Committee for Arts mission.

Discussion of Tablet Rock

- Rebecca Reynolds's presented summary to date. In consideration of the 400th, the bronze plaque needs restoration. There also needs to be recognition of the indigenous peoples in conjunction with commemorative markers. She gave an historical overview.

- RFP has been asked to specifically address restoration needs. RFP suggested to be proposed by April 17. Need to vote on this at the next committee meeting.
- Funding is by private donation accompanied by a request from CPA. Project total is \$25,000.
- David Fields stated city has monies set aside to support restoration if donated money does not come to fruition.
- Miranda noted that Cape Ann Museum will also be looking for funding for its native Mishoon being built.
- The goal will be to preserve history while updating “correcting” history as the canoe will be built and placed at Stage Fort Park.

Frank Davis Portrait

- approximately \$1400 quote from restorer. Looking for funding to move forward.
- Recommend to let the city decide the merit of the portrait being accepted as a gift.
- Next meetings Judith will present the scope of the value of the portrait. Collections committee will work on it for the next meeting to vote.

The WPA Murals

- murals under the stage were rescued and need attention on restoration and value.
- Need to consider public spaces for these murals to be exhibited.
- Need itemization record of murals to target restoration.
- Need a conservator present to touch or move the murals. Judith will research.
- David recommended before the demo of the East Gloucester School committee should do a sweep of the building of potential valuable art.
- Possibly an arrangement can be made with businesses that benefit from the murals to hang murals.

Diane Chen Installation

- Diane has a plan B for the project. The project will be called Lost At Sea, Laid to Rest. Oliver Barker from CAM will take the existing panel from her and put it in the museum. The rest of the shards will be given to fisherman or persons with boats to be put back in water in commemoration. It will be documented and put in a museum as an installation.
- Plan C would be to put an installable piece at the new building (1c42) site.
- Judith would like us to send a response to Diane thanking her for her generous spirit in supporting the city. David Fields will work that.

New Work

- David Fields is planning on putting in for funding for the Committee based on the budget we had four years ago. It was approximately \$4000
- The Committee for the Arts needs to put in writing the official thoughts of the committee to present to the budget committee. Will get the “storyline” going. Karen will handle.
- Next meeting February 28, 2023, at the Harbormaster’s room. David Field to open the room for the meeting.

Moved to adjourn at 9:45 am.