

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 3, 2020

Members Present: Elsie Chapman, Dave Coon, Lindy Gold, Reed Immer, A. Norcott, B. Schaffer, B. Segaloff, A. Staton, Francesca Vignola.

Members Absent: Abby Feldman, Jessie Hameen,

Staff Present: Adriane Jefferson, Kim Futrell

CALL TO ORDER

6:26pm

II. MINUTES

A. Staton called for a motion to approve the July 6 meeting minutes. Motioned by B. Segaloff, seconded by B. Schaffer. Minutes unanimously approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

A Jefferson discussed the upcoming Amistad Committee William Lanson events. One event will feature a reception for the sculptor, Dana King on Thursday, September 24. A formal dedication of the sculpture will take place on Saturday, September 26. The committee seeks volunteers from the commission if available. Both will be taking place outdoors.

K. Futrell discussed the upcoming temporary installation of the Black Lives Matter artwork on the first floor windows of City Hall. There were 14 artists submissions to the Call for Artists and 1 artist selected by a panel of four. The windows affected are directly surrounding the Amistad Memorial sculpture. Members will receive the announcement of the installation.

The Design Brigade recently presented three options (mock-ups) for a Covid-19 memorial to the Mayor. The options range in cost from \$50,000 to \$100,000 and include consideration for an 'art park'. Group did a good job of incorporating community input throughout the process.

The Creative Relief Fund has raised \$190,000 in partnership with the Arts Council of Greater New Haven. The Arts Council has expanded to the region; however funds have been specifically set aside for New Haven applicants.

The Cultural Equity Plan process will launch in September. Staff anticipates this work which is being considered for multiple departments will contribute to our department's efforts. Members will be kept in the loop in regards to the steps moving forward.

Members previewed the Arts Anti-Racism Pledge on togethernewhaven.com developed by the summer interns, S. Roach and M. Hajjaligol. The pledge will include accountability measures and steps to make decision making, employment, policies, etc. more accessible and inclusive. Cohorts will be developed to provide more one on one guidance.

Members discussed updates to the commission bylaws drafted by D. Coon including replacing “alderman” with “alder”, methods of communication. Additional edits recommendations can be forwarded to D. Coon and revisited in a future meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

None discussed.

Meeting adjourned 7:37pm.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020.