



100 Parkers Mill • Oswego, IL. 60543 • (630) 554-3618 •
Website: <http://www.oswegoil.org>

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
VILLAGE OF OSWEGO
MEETING MINUTES**

Roll Call

Attended: Tamzin, Jennifer, Karen, Tony, Shannon, Kristie, Julie

Absent: Rachelle

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM.

Public Forum:

Opened and closed at 6:05pm

MEETING MINUTES:

Julie presented written copies of the October 2018, revised November 2018 and the February 2019 meeting minutes for approval.

Tamzin motioned to approve the October meeting minutes; Kristie seconded it.

Shannon motioned to approve the November meeting minutes; Tamzin seconded it.

Jennifer motioned to approve the February meeting minutes; Tony seconded it.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Public Art Manhole Cover Project Update

- a. Artists with designs that placed in the top three received letters letting them know that they are finalists.
- b. Designs were sent to the foundry to see about feasibility of design production; will follow up with more information as it comes. Final design will be contingent on feasibility and cost of producing.
- c. Corinna- selected the foundry that presented the lowest quotes.
- d. Jennifer Hughes with Public Works gave some suggestions after reviewing the designs.
- e. Discussed potentially letting artists have a month to revise design if needed to "fit" with what would work best with the Foundry.

2. Wine on the Fox Art Tie-In

- a. Julie- shared discussion that was internally done within the Village representatives.
 - i. Unknowns with construction project (safety/security/costs), problems with singling a specific business out for benefit, etc.
 - ii. The Village is in the process of creating a strategic plan that would drive downtown traffic during construction, safely.



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- iii. We re-visited the idea of having a juried art exhibit this year on site, instead of at a downtown business. Discussed the number of wineries already lined up (25), plus the Downtown Boutique up at the Village.
- iv. The Village recommended doing it for next year's event instead of this year while there is more time to plan, a strategy in place and space to exhibit well.

3. Lit Fest

- a. At the end of last month's meeting, Karen brought to the group's attention about concerns about continuing the Literary Festival for 2019.
- b. Kristie and Karen discussed the role of the Cultural Arts Commission in facilitating and planning of the Literary Festival, and that the Lit Fest was founded by the Cultural Arts Commission.
- c. Also discussed was the target market of the event (the general public) and showcasing local and regional writers.
- d. May not be enough resources within the Village team to help run this event. Shannon commented that she would not be able to plan and be at the event as this was not her understanding of the expectations of being a Commissioner. Julie confirmed that it isn't the expectation of the Commissioners to be at events, rather to advise the Village. However, when they can be at CAC events, it would be nice to see them there.
- e. We took an informal poll using a show of hands as to who would be interested in having the Cultural Arts Commission host the Literary Festival. All present voted in favor of having the Village and the Arts Commission continue the Lit Fest in 2019.

4. Vision of Cultural Arts Commission, roles, responsibilities, vision

- a. Kristie and Tony discussed developing this again and going further with this initiative. The mission and vision of the group needs to be re-visited and/or defined such that decisions to do an event or embark on an initiative can be made based upon how well they fit into the mission/vision of the Commission as defined.
- b. It was brought forth that sub-committees for established and new events may be needed for events such as Lunafest and the Literary Festival again so that the Commission doesn't spend their meeting time planning events, rather, to guide the overall vision.
- c. Julie's Role with the Village: Julie discussed her job description as 50% special events and 50% BRE (Business Retention and Expansion) with the Economic Development Department. The group felt that this role needed to be kept in mind as we planned for 2019 and beyond.

5. Downtown Business Initiatives During Construction

- a. Julie commented that the Village needs to "wait and see" before we go forward. Corrina is gathering surveys from downtown (from businesses and residents) and will present on March 20th at an event open to the public regarding downtown construction.
- b. Comments on Having Events Downtown: Julie shared with the commission that anyone can submit a Special Events Permit with diagrams, etc. The SEP as completed is shared with all Dept. Heads, as well as the Fire and Police Chiefs or Asst. Chiefs, Building and Zoning, and filtered back to the main office. With construction, more weight goes to the police



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- department in trying to determine if there are safety and traffic concerns that need to be addressed before the Village can feel good about issuing a permit. Certain modifications
- c. such as no-parking signs, off-site parking, etc. may need to be made by Event Managers before the event gets permitted. In other words, there are more challenges while construction is going on that need to be overcome than when it isn't going on.
 - d. Kristie mentioned that the Oswegoland Park District will continue having their Country Market and their Prairie Fest Parade downtown in the summer months, but that the PD took Concerts in the Park and Hudson Park out of downtown for safety reasons for 3 – 6 years during construction.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Green Team/ Rain Barrel Art Initiative

- a. Thinking of next year -
- b. 45 people opted to get a rain barrel this year in April 2019
- c. It was proposed by Julie that we partner with the Conservation Foundation to establish a rain barrel art program, project and/or contest in conjunction with Green Team initiatives.
- d. Rain barrels - talked about who we would work with to facilitate the production, connection, sponsorship, and display.
- e. Kristie mentioned that Little White Schoolhouse will have a space for display, for future exhibition and also asked if there would be a market of artists who would want to use a rain barrel as a preferred medium.
- f. Tamzin suggested that the way it is proposed and formulated from the start sets the tone for who would be interested.

2. OHS/ Village Temporary Mural Program

- a. Recently there was an invitation from the school district, to businesses to come into the classroom to see what they are doing and meet the teachers.
- b. The Graphic Design teacher conveyed that they are looking for ways to have the students' art in the community. Julie asked the Commission what they thought about the student's art being placed on vinyl or wind screen material on the fence surrounding the downtown construction lots.
- c. This would be a Village/School/Cultural Arts Commission collaboration. Shannon suggested using both OEHS and OHS to help collaborate this.
- d. Julie brought up that if the vinyl was too cost prohibitive or if the material would fade in the sun too quickly, maybe just a mural somewhere to showcase the students' art would make more sense?
- e. Focusing in on the right materials, Tamzin mentioned that the graphic designer would have this information.
- f. Kristie suggested that it may not be such a good idea to bring attention to the space.
- g. Jennifer asked what the timeline would be in this project. Julie mentioned that next fall is something that they were thinking about but were open to possibly starting on it now.



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- h. Tony suggested that using panels and spacing them might be a better way to go. Than using fence and vinyl.
- i. The vverall consensus was to re-visit this idea when we can compare it to a Mission statement and see how it fits into that.

STAFF REPORTS:

- 1. No staff reports

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

- 1. No commission reports.

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 10, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. H. [unclear]", written in a cursive style.