



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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
VILLAGE OF OSWEGO
MEETING MINUTES

ROLL CALL

Attended: Karen Kulzer, Kristie Vest, Katie Marter, Jennifer Putzier, Tony Pastore, Jenette Sturges, Julie Hoffman

Absent: Angie Hibben, Tamzin Ritchie

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM

Opened and closed at 6:06 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Jenette presented written copies of the August 11, 2021, minutes for approval. Approval of minutes was tabled pending edits.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Art at Village Hall
 - a. Artwork from the instructors at FRAMA will go up approximately Oct. 4. Julie will communicate through Karen who will bring the art over and assist with hanging.
 - b. Julie will send a hold harmless agreement for the artwork. Karen will call her insurance agent to make sure the artwork is covered as additional insured. Julie confirmed that if Village Hall is included as additional insured that the hold harmless wouldn't be needed.
 - c. Julie gave out several winter cards at Coffee and Conversations as well as PrairieFest, and Jenette said an email was going out to residents tomorrow.
 - d. Staff solicited feedback on the 2022 Call for Artists. Karen wanted to emphasize that throughout the year there is a mix of students, amateurs, and professionals. Jennifer wanted to add language for curators and ask for exhibit proposals rather than just artists. Karen asked that when we think about the annual calendar that we set aside space for the Expo winners. Jennifer was concerned that over time that might limit the variety. Kristie said that we could expand the number of exhibits in a year eventually. Jenette suggested having the Hometown Expo apply as an exhibitor each year. The call will be recirculated and then it will go out after then.
 - e. The Commission will review what's been submitted at the Dec. 8 meeting.
 - f. The Commission reviewed the Selection Criteria, Guidelines and Eligibility document. Following discussion, the commission removed 'nudity' as a specific exclusion and added that artwork must be appropriate for audiences that include all ages.
 - g. The Commission reviewed the rejection letter and made minor edits for clarity.



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2. Mural

- a. Jenette presented the submissions for the mural and presented options. The Commission can accept one, or reject them all, or can start a negotiation process with a selected artist to make changes to their proposal.
- b. The Jason Watts proposal came in way over budget at \$10,000. To move forward, we would need to get a different proposal or raise funds. Kristie said she would be interested in a proposal that doesn't cover the entire wall.
- c. Karen said that Arts Alive and Jason Watts covers the whole space, rather than the Schultz proposal which felt less like a mural. Tony said he preferred a more mature work. Kristie wanted to consider Schultz for a future project, but not this proposal.
- d. On the Jason Watts proposal, Jenette said we could negotiate with the artist to see whether he would scale down the piece. Another option might be finding other sources, for example, the building owner.
- e. Kristie said she wondered whether Watts would be open to a bike instead of a dog to appeal more to the building owner. She would be happy with either the Arts Alive or Watts mural.
- f. The rest of the commission agreed with their approval of either the Arts Alive or the Watts.
- g. Karen recited Angie's thoughts that if we work with the artists on their proposals, it would be ideal to include more elements of businesses in downtown.
- h. Jenette read Tamzin's emailed comments. Tamzin liked the Watts proposal and was neutral on the Art Alive mural.
- i. Kristie said she thought the Arts Alive mural fits in more and the Watts mural might be more of a shock of purple.
- j. Jenette suggested that whomever we don't hire this time around could be invited for a specific project in the future.
- k. Jenette said staff would take back the two options, the questions the Commissioners had, and preferences of the building owner, and then report back.

STAFF REPORTS

- Julie said there would be 15 acts at Oswego's Got Talent and asked again for volunteers to judge.
- Julie asked the Commissioners to consider whether they would like a booth at the Christmas Walk on Dec. 3 for fundraising or other activities. Kristie suggested a projection of the future mural onto the building.
- Julie said the \$971 check would be presented to Michelle at the Oct. 5 board meeting. The Commission is invited.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Tony asked about the manhole covers rusting. Jenette said the manhole covers rusting is expected and could be thought of as a patina. They're in an awkward phase but the image will continue to be visible, according to the Village's project engineer.



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- Karen and Kristie said the PrairieFest barn quilt community art project turned out well. They'll be hung and the park district will continue to do similar projects. Karen learned how to prep aluminum surfaces for paint.

NEXT MEETING: Oct. 13, 2021

ADJOURNMENT 7:13 p.m.