

**Wednesday, August 9, 2023**  
**CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**ROLL CALL**

Attended: Tony Pastore, Karen Kulzer, Katie Marter, Jennifer Putzier, Kristie Vest and Julie Hoffman (staff)

**START OF MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Tony and seconded by Kristie.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

The Public Forum was opened and closed at 6:09 p.m.

**MINUTES**

May 10, 2023, minutes: Motion to approve as amended by Karen; seconded by Katie. Amendment included a clarification to the Art in the Park concept as a day-long event/art fair with art classes included.

June 14, 2023, minutes: Motion to approve as written by Katie and seconded by Jennifer.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Discussion was had about the next fiscal year's cultural arts project, revisiting the ideas proposed in the months prior.

Public Art/Bike Racks:

Fabrication has begun and the installation will be done at the conclusion of the Van Buren Water Main Project.

The Commission has asked that a Press Release go out ahead of time informing the public about the project and educating them on the public art component of the functional pieces.

River Art:

Kristie Vest informed the group that a DCEO grant to reinforce the bridge was applied for and denied. The Oswegoland Park District is doing their strategic planning and won't know the future of the bridge until September or October of 2023.

Planning or tabling further discussion about a future art installation at Venue 1012:

At this time, we will set this project aside until more information is available about the next phase of the Venue 1012 build-out. In the meantime, Julie will reiterate to the administration that the CAC is interested in being part of the discussion as plans are laid so that their inspirations can be considered during the planning phase. The inspiration garden/water art idea, music-themed playground idea, and the sculptures along the walking path idea will be shared so that these are forethoughts as opposed to after thoughts.

### Mural

The Cultural Arts Commission unanimously voted to put the farmer's market themed mural, created by Jason Watts, on Art Black's building at 57 Main St., on the side where the large pine tree is located. The mural will be painted on panels, with the panels being installed on the brick.

Karen asked the Village to check in regarding a restaurant going in where the tree is at 59 Main St. is before proceeding.

A vote was taken to proceed with the installation of a mural at 57 Main St facing Jackson St. The results follow:

Kriste Vest: Yes

Tony Pastore: Yes

Jennifer Putzier: Yes

Katie Marter: Yes

Karen Kulzer: Yes

### Art-Focused Event

For the 2024 fiscal year, the Commissioners collectively requested that the Village focus on melding a one-day Art in the Park/Multicultural Event concept, scheduling it to take place at or around Aug. 24 or 25, 2024 along the river in the parks.

As we select the date, we'll want to avoid the same date that the Alley Art Festival in Aurora is happening. It's scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 26, 2023.

Suggested event elements:

- Classes by artists
- Live entertainment
- Vendors, esp. the Farmers Market vendors if they can be tapped into
- Culinary Demonstrations
- Visual Art Displays

The multi-cultural aspect could take any variety of form, depending upon who stepped up and engaged in the process. Julie was asked to research who the active cultural events representatives are within various cultures in the surrounding communities and to begin doing some research.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Julie informed the Commission that a \$2,000.00 check has been issued to the Village by LUNAFEST just prior to folding to be sure the intended beneficiary did not lose the donation they were accustomed to receiving from the event. A vote was taken as to whether the Commission wanted the \$2,000.00 to be donated to Mutual Ground. The results follow:

Kriste Vest: Yes

Katie Marter: Yes

Tony Pastore: Yes

Jennifer Putzier: Yes

Karen Kulzer: Yes

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### Julie Hoffman: Village of Oswego

Wine off the Fox is taking place at Venue 1012 on September 1 – 2, 2023 and has moved from a one-day event in October to a two-day event over Labor Day weekend.

## **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

### Karen Kulzer: Fox River Academy of Music & Art

FRAMA will be doing community art projects at the Oswego Downtown Farmers Market on August 13 and at Beats & Eats on August 26, 2023. There is also a faculty music recital at Village Hall on August 13.

### Kristie Vest: Oswegoland Park District

- The Limelight Theater just wrapped up with their Addams Family performances breaking attendance records.
- The Director announced his retirement at the end of the month
- Multi-million-dollar facility renovations will be starting soon.
- September 16, 2023, is Brew at the Bridge at Hudson Crossing Park. Two ciders and three spirits will be added this year.
- A carnival will be at Prairie Point Park over Labor Day Weekend.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Tony made the motion to adjourn, and Karen seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Village Hall. Jennifer will not be present.