

**Wednesday, June 19, 2024**  
**CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Tony Pastore, Katie Marter, Bridget Piekarczyk, Karen Kulzer, Kristie Vest, Julie Hoffman (staff) and Bridget Bittman (staff)

Absent: Dana Rickard, Michelle Meyers

**START OF MEETING**

A motion to begin the meeting was made at 6:10 p.m. by Karen and seconded by Tony.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

The Public Forum was opened and closed at 6:13 p.m.

**MINUTES**

The May 15, 2024 minutes were approved. Karen made the motion to approve; seconded by Kristie.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Look Up Oswego Banner Project**

General comments associated with the project:

- Not enough large format banners.
- Printing was great!
- Logo was great!
- Brought a lot to the town.
- Students have been walking downtown showing off their work.
- The bigger ones on the main rows would be nice.
- Having a sign somewhere to talk about what it is would be helpful as a reference. i.e. These artists represent students 5 – 12...and possible a QR code.
- Create a page on the website that talks about it and list all the artists and the name of their pieces with a thumbnail.
- A map would be too much work but a reference for who is included in the form of an informational page.

As part of the ribbon ceremony, next Thursday, June 27 at 6:00 p.m., there is going to be a public presentation along with a yard sign that identifies.

We can add some yard signs informing people about the banner exhibit.

**Bike Racks**

General comments associated with the project:

- Karen wasn't anticipating all of the pieces being in the same spot.
- Downtown merchants were wondering why they all went into the same place.

Speaking of the location aspect of it, do we know how much it would cost to manufacture more of them? Ask how much it would cost to make more? If a merchant wants one by their building, they may be able to have one, even if closer to their building. It could still work.

Kristie said that the park district is redoing parks, including Hudson Crossing, and may consider adding bicycle racks. She suggested a letter to the park district indicating that the Commission is willing to collaborate and share its contact information the Village's bike rack design to allow for continuity throughout the community.

- Having them placed in different directions would have been helpful. Having fewer in one spot could have worked based upon which ones were selected and grouped together.
- The yellow ones really stand out the most because they can be seen from all directions.
- The smaller flowers could have been taller.
- It's an incredible start to this type of project. It's whimsical, creative and functional. All in all, it's cool and it pops out at you.
- If there are more of them and more throughout the downtown, that would be cooler. This display, with a functional element, was a good way to start.

### **Mural Project**

Should we put it on panels or should it be on a wall? Panels on a wall could work but freestanding may not give the same effect.

Laminators, Inc. make a full line of products for artists that could work for panels. Is it time to ask Happenstance Goods to move the Boy Scout mural commemorating the Lincoln Highway somewhere else and put our mural in place of it.

Katie thinks the easiest way to get the mural done is to go with panels.

Julie brought the inspiration of painting on the grain barn on Adams St. which was brought forth by Trustee McCarthy-Lange. (Not the smaller blue silo next to it).

If we can use the silo, get the project done. If need be, paint one side this year and the other side next year.

It would be abstract colors rather than the farmers market/river theme. Keep the flower element to tie back into the bike racks and maybe keep the abstractness of the river scene. Tony thinks the river scene should be scrapped and a big and bold abstract piece should go up. Others still like the river scene.

Approach Jason Watts and ask about the river scene and ask about a change in bolder colors.

Get the site nailed down and then talk to Muralist Jason Watts. We may be able to start with the \$ allotted in this year's budget and finish the mural in next year's budget.

## **NEW PROJECTS - 2025**

Group consensus to keep the banner project going in the same timeframe. Move up the planning timeframe for the teachers but put them up during the same timeframe as they went up in 2023 from Mid-May through mid-October.

Administrative parameters – keep things that are labor intensive to a minimum. Public art projects are better than festivals and events.

Do painted doors along a walking or biking path or place art in parts of the community. Bridget Bittman talked about the bike path being constructed as part of the Wolfs Crossing improvement project which is almost finished at the Harvey round-about. Maybe some art on the round-about or along the bike path. There are at least three roundabouts; Harvey Rd. Douglas Rd and then another one over 10 years. There is also one going in at Minkler and Collins Rd. (Kendall County).

Easiest locations are public areas that are Village-owned.

Roundabouts; sculptures; murals are all of interest.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Bridget Bittman is officially taking over as the Village liaison.

## **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Kristie - Limelight Theater has a play this weekend called Community Day. More commercial endeavors are forthcoming for Limelight Theater. (22 years and running).

Karen – FRAMA does the Country Market once a month with music performances by students and community art project.

On open mic night will also be in Montgomery on Montgomery Rd. near Copley Hospital.

Tony's company, Wendy's, does custom bike racks.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Tony motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Katie seconded the motion.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Village Hall.

Kristie will be out of town and unable to attend.