



STOW ARTS COMMISSION
Tuesday, 5/9/2023, 6:30 p.m.
Boards & Commission Room

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leila Griffiths, Chairperson	Jessica Fishel
Thomas Manuszak	David Smith
Raymond Dean	Janelle Hershberger
LeAnn Covey	Debra Rich
Michele Leissler	Tom Stephan

ALSO PRESENT:

Sue Kirchgessner, SMFPL Representative
Chris Sheridan, Parks & Recreation Supervisor

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael Daniels
Floyd Juszli
Adeline Zawiski-Smith

CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE – Leila Griffiths called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., and asked Jill Janson to record the attendance.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Jess Fischel to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2023 meeting; seconded by Ray Dean. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS

Arts Showcase for Veterans – Because Mike Daniels was absent this evening, Leila Griffiths reported that he would email an update to all members. She asked if anyone knew of a list of veteran-owned businesses in Stow in which they could display artwork. Chris Sheridan suggested that she contact the Chamber of Commerce to inquire if they have such a list.

Adopt-A-Spot – Michele Leissler indicated that she was not yet aware of the Commission's assigned spot. Plant pick up and planting day is May 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tom Manuszak said to let him know the location and he will help plant.

Traffic Signal Box Project Phase 3 – Jill Janson read Deb Berkey's update and the names of volunteers for each box. The update is that Upfront Art is finalizing the digital art that will go to the printer this Friday. Members should clean and maintain their assigned box by May 20. If an insect nest is found, report it to Deb Berkey and she will request removal by the Park Maintenance staff. This work should be completed by May 20. Chris Sheridan said a final sample was received showing the location of the QR code. Marketing is still working on the layout but, when you scan the code it will take you to the Arts Commission page. On that page, you can click on Traffic Boxes and it will provide information on buying the prints, a link to a map of each location and they are working on a brief artist bio page. There will also be a separate sponsorship page.

Art for Park Sidewalks – Jess Fishel reported that Mayor Pribonic identified four (4) park locations that would reflect the sidewalk art initially. Because of weather conditions, the project has been delayed. She will contact the Road Department to see when the staff can clean off the walks and get the paint ordered. If anyone is interested in helping, contact Jess and she will coordinate.

Stow Farmers Market Kids Corner – Leila Griffiths will email a request for volunteers to staff the Commission's booth at the Market this season. Please be sure to wear your Art Commission t-shirt when you volunteer. The kids' crafts will be very simple and easy to do within a few minutes time. The first market date is June 3, 2023.

Fall Festival – Michele Leissler said she emailed Tammy and her response was that they could definitely reserve a spot for the Commission. Michele thought she may have misunderstood and thought our request was about the Heritage Festival. Also, Tammy said she has been working on a project for some time that may be of more interest to the Commission. She will get back in touch after their Board meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Library Update – Sue Kirchgessner said summer reading starts June 1! She said the Library has a lot planned for all ages. She distributed the Library's newest program guide and bookmark. This year's theme is "All Together Now", which is about love, friendships and togetherness. She said a few fun things planned this summer will be an all-ages pet show, photography contest and reading garden.

NEW BUSINESS

Painted Bricks – Debra Rich forwarded a photo depicting painted bricks made to look like children's books as an idea to sell and raise funds.

Calendars Highlighting the Traffic Boxes – Tom Manuszak brought back an idea about creating calendars depicting images of the traffic boxes to sell to generate revenue for the scholarship fund. Chris Sheridan said the community calendar is no longer accepting sponsorships and have been directed to contact the Parks & Recreation Department to sponsor some of the City's events. A discussion was held about selling the print cards at the farmers market or other events. Chris agreed to check with the Finance Department and the P&R Director to determine if it's possible for visitors to create an account on RecDesk to accept payments for the prints at any of the Arts Commission events this year. Leila Griffiths said the Commission might need to brainstorm new ideas to raise funds.

Stow Players Artists Needed – LeAnn Covey wanted to bring this to the Commission's attention. Stow Players Group is always in need of artists to volunteer to display original art, help with promotional material or assist in design of props and backdrops. If anyone is interested, please contact her.

Commission Endorsement/Sponsorship – Tom Stephan thought that the Arts Commission should support all forms of art in the community and it would be nice if the Commission's name could be reflected as sponsoring or endorsing the project or event – even if it's a free endorsement. The Commission thought it would be beneficial to invite other artistic organizations to attend a future meeting.

Next scheduled meeting: June 6, 2023

Motion by Jess Fishel to adjourn; seconded by Ray Dean. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting Adjourned at 7:24 p.m.



Leila Griffiths, Chairperson



Jill Janson, Recording Secretary