

**Town of Waynesville, NC
Public Art Commission – Regular Meeting Minutes
Town Hall, 9 South Main Street, Waynesville, NC 28786
Date: July 11, 2013**



The mission of the Waynesville Public Art Commission is to engage the community and enrich public spaces through original art that celebrates Waynesville's historic, cultural, natural, and human resources.

In attendance:

Chairman Jan Griffin

Bill King

Diana Laursen

Charles Mills

Vice-Chairman Ann Melton

Also in attendance:

Town Manager Assistant Alison Melnikova

Secretary Ginny Boyer

Absent:

Sarah Jane League

David Blevins

(Micah McClure has not been officially appointed to the Waynesville Public Art Commission as of today. Sylvia Everett's resignation was effective July 1, 2013).

Minutes of the June 13, 2013 Regular Meeting

The minutes of the June 13, 2013 regular meeting will be approved/corrected at the August 8th meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report will be approved/corrected at the August 8th meeting.

New Business

Chairman Griffin announced she is stepping down as Chairman in September after Grace Cathey's "Wildflowers of the Smokies" piece is installed but will remain as a member of the Commission. She also thanked Ann Melton for being "gracious" and agreeing to take the position as Chairman.

Diana Laursen made a motion to nominate Ann Melton as Chairman of Waynesville Public Art Commission beginning in September. Charles Mills seconded and all were in favor.

Fundraising—Wildflowers of the Smokies—Chairman Jan Griffin

Chairman Griffin thanked Commissioners and Town of Waynesville staff exceedingly for their help with the Wildflowers of the Smokies fundraiser.

Chairman Griffin reported that contributions are still coming in, but the Commission will not make what it did at Salamander Splash. She hopes the Commission will think seriously about future fundraising endeavors, choosing not to have another fundraiser from community artists.

Charles Mills mentioned online fundraising as an option. Alison Melnikova mentioned Haywood Waterways' successful use of online fundraising through Crowdrise (in conjunction with their Polar Plunge event).

Bill King asked where the commission stands in relation to paying for Grace Cathey's piece. His concern was that the commission has always had private donations pay for public art and wants to make sure the commission is continuing to do so. Ms. Melnikova reported an estimated \$25,000 in the Public Art Commission account \$11,000 of which is a "cushion" that the PAC is "completely in [its] rights to use to pay Grace". Ms. Melnikova reiterated Grace Cathey's piece cost \$12,500 and Chairman Griffin said the commission has made an estimated \$6,000 with contributions still coming in.

Wildflowers of the Smokies--wall sculpture by Grace Cathey

Chairman Griffin reported the pieces of the artwork in fabrication are "fabulous" with everything already cut out; Grace has to hammer and build it. Two minor changes are: Grace has decided to powder coat the piece and the names of the plants she planned to have in steel will be stainless steel. Assistant Town Manager reported the Town will help with installation, pressure washing the sight and landscaping.

Alison Melnikova reported the contract requires a studio visit which was done yesterday (July 10). Bill King said, once you see Ms. Cathey's studio and the weight of what she works with, is "unbelievable" and "very impressive". Chairman Griffin said Ms. Cathey began welding at Haywood Community College. She also said Ms. Cathey wants these pieces to be outstanding because of where they are placed and because this is her hometown.

Commissioners discussed: when the celebration/art dedication would be scheduled (Friday, August 2 before Art After Dark, Friday, August 30, Friday, September 6); what food would be supplied; what music, if any; and the commission's hope to get everything donated that it can. Chairman Griffin hopes to find out what Ms. Cathey's schedule looks like.

Diana Laursen and Charles Mills mentioned Main Street Mile being on Friday, August 23 during which time the mini park will be used for registration. Diana Laursen helps with the race and once flyers are printed for the art dedication, they could be distributed there.

Other Business--15% payment to artists from auctioned items

Chairman Griffin reported that three of the auctioned pieces sold for ten dollars but were valued from 175 to 250. As was stated in the letter from the Public Art Commission requesting donated art, artists were to receive 15% back from the sale of their particular item. Discussion began after consideration that a check for 15% of \$10.00 might be considered an insult and artists may not want to participate again.

Charles Mills made a motion to pay \$25.00 each (rather than 15%) to the three artists whose pieces sold for \$10.00. Diana seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Once checks are received in the Municipal Building, Ginny Boyer will send thank you letters and checks to artists whose pieces sold at the auction.

Other Business--Town Budget

Alison Melnikova reported the Town Board adopted the budget July 11, 2013 in which \$5,000 was approved for Waynesville Public Art Commission.

Adjourn

With no further business, Chairman Griffin adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.m.

Ginny Boyer, Secretary

Jan Griffin, Chairman