

**Town of Waynesville, NC
Public Art Commission – Regular Meeting Minutes
Town Hall, 9 South Main Street, Waynesville, NC 28786
Date: August 8, 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
Vice-Chairman Ann Melton
Treasurer Sarah Jane League
David Blevins
Bill King
Diana Laursen
Charles Mills
Micah McClure

Also in attendance:

Town Manager Assistant Alison Melnikova
Secretary Ginny Boyer

Adoption of Minutes of the June 13, 2013 Regular Meeting and Minutes of the July 11, 2013 Meeting

Sarah Jane League made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 13, 2013 regular meeting. Charles Mills seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Bill King made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 11, 2013 regular meeting. Diana Laursen seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report—June 2013 and July 2013

At the end of June is when Town's fiscal year ends. Balance as of June 30th was \$26, 374.73. Income was \$10,305.00 and expenses \$10,015.03.

For July, the balance is \$27, 295, including income from Wildflowers of the Smokies event deposits and payment to Grace Cathey.

In addition to the June and July reports, Ms. League supplied commissioners with a summary report for the Wildflowers of the Smokies fundraising event itself. Income of \$11,089.49 came in from the sale of cookbooks, donations, raffle tickets, and event tickets. Expenses included: Grace Cathey's two payments toward completion of the piece, finalist stipends, food, printing, and other miscellaneous expenses. The event brought in \$1,800 in ticket sales and \$940 in raffle ticket sales.

Bill King continues to marvel at how successful cookbook sales were for the commission.
Charles Mills made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports for June, 2013 and July 2013 as presented; Diana Laursen seconded, and all were in favor.

Chairman Griffin thanked Treasurer Sarah Jane League. The event was a very busy time for her.

Other business—Micah McClure welcomed officially to Waynesville's Public Art Commission

Chairman Griffin thanked Micah McClure for his interest in Waynesville's Public Art Commission and congratulated him on his official appointment to the Public Art Commission by Waynesville's Board of Aldermen (07-23-13).

Wildflowers of the Smokies Fundraising Event—Chairman Jan Griffin

There was general discussion about the future of fundraising: Sarah Jane League hopes several avenues will be used to get publicity out about future events. Chairman Griffin suggested not using auctions again. She hopes to have an artist, Mr. Terry Painter, attend the September meeting to discuss the effects of using artists to support efforts like the Wildflowers of the Smokies fundraiser and how it affects their livelihood. Terry would rather give a check so his art could sell in his gallery. Mr. Painter has suggested utilizing a person who is well known to go to places of business and ask for support.

Micah McClure said art has taken a hit in a tapped-out community and can be considered a luxury which causes it to be devalued. Mr. McClure recommended setting a cap on art for future auctions. Mr. McClure also mentioned using art in conjunction with another fundraiser to avoid their being the sole source of income. Mr. McClure suggested providing an event for which people will spend \$20 on a ticket, not \$400 on a piece of artwork, thereby reaching more people through ticket sales.

David Blevins said anyone in business gets their door knocked on over and over; people in business either decide to be part of the community or not. Mr. Blevins suggested having a musical show rather than an auction, but added, in "the big world of art, art is selling -- an investment". David said things that have events do better. Mr. Blevins suggested honoring an artist for lifetime body of work, have an "artist of the year" celebration to recognize them, pull in folks they know and some "notables" and sell tickets at a nicer price.

Chairman Griffin suggested taking a day trip to learn about other options while taking time to think about future fundraising. She mentioned how a lot was learned on the day trip Alison Melnikova took the commission on to Grovewood Galleries in Asheville.

Wildflowers of the Smokies art dedication, Grace Cathey's sculpture

The art dedication for Wildflowers of the Smokies is scheduled for Friday, September 6. Chairman Griffin asked volunteers to be there at 5:00 pm with a start time of 5:30 pm. Town staff will supply ice, a covered tent and one long table. Vice-Chairman Ann Melton asked volunteers to bring finger-food that will not require forks or even plates.

Micah McClure mentioned he is already planning on getting an article in Smoky Mountain News about the event.

Board of Aldermen Reappointments and Appointments

Chairman Griffin would like the commission to discuss adding three more members to bring membership from nine up to eleven. Ms. Griffin explained the commission has a lot of busy people and several times meetings have come close to not having a quorum. Also, with the work load, plenty of people are needed to help. Expansion of the commission is ultimately decided by the Waynesville Board of Aldermen.

The Board recently approved Barbara Dias but she was not able to be reached via phone or email. It is assumed the Board of Aldermen will remove this applicant and she will not serve. Chairman Griffin mentioned both Nick Depaolo and Kevin Duckett as enthusiastic and interested in serving the commission. It is assumed one of these gentlemen will be appointed at the next Board of Aldermen meeting.

Bill King asked if previous members might come back to serve. According to Chairman Griffin previous members have been approached but have declined to serve again and she feels it is in the best interest of the community to get people with new ideas who have not served before. If there is an expansion to eleven seats, there will be three vacancies to fill.

Charles Mills made a motion to request the Board of Aldermen expand the membership of the Waynesville Public Art Commission from nine to eleven. David Blevins seconded and all were in favor.

Adjourn

With no further business, Chairman Griffin adjourned the meeting.

Ginny Boyer, Secretary

Jan Griffin, Chairman