

# NASHUA ARTS COMMISSION

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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NASHUA ARTS COMMISSION

September 8, 2020

Zoom Meeting

**Members in attendance via Zoom:** Lindsay Rinaldi, Jennifer Annand, Sara Caesar, Judy Carlson, John Egan, Tina Cassidy, Marc Thayer

**Absent:** Paul LaFlamme

**Also present:** Amy DeRoche NAC Admin, Elizabeth Lu Aldermanic Liaison, Steve Ruddock

Called to order: 8:05 am

1. **Minutes:** Motion was made by Judy and seconded by Jenn to approve the May minutes. Motion carries

2. **Communication:** None

3. **Old Business:**

Arts & Culture Plan: (see attached report)

\*Motion was made by Jenn and seconded by Judy to approve the vision statement for the Arts & Culture plan. Motion carries.

Discussion was held on the “goals & beliefs” section. Elizabeth Lu would like more clarity on the belief that the arts should be accessible to all. The working group will clarify this at their next meeting. They will also clarify how the Arts can be involved in being part of a “welcoming city”.

Grants: Judy provided an update on the FY20 grant awards. She contacted the recipients on their use of the award money to clarify if they would be reserving the money for the submitted project, or if it would be transferred to COVID relief. Volunteers are needed for the grant working group. Judy, Marc, Paul and Jenn will still serve. Lindsay asks that the group meet and discuss COVID repercussions that may effect this year’s grant distribution.

4. **New Business:** Marc suggests that the NAC request that arts organizations/non-profits become eligible for grants from the city COVID funds if a new round of money is released. Elizabeth will present this at the BOA meeting on 9/9.

Budget: (see attached) Lindsay presented a potential budget for FY21.

\*Motion was made by Jenn and seconded by Tina to approve the presented budget. Elizabeth questioned what the marketing money is used for. Marc suggested moving as much money into grant awards and leaving a small portion in discretionary funds.

\*Motion made by Judy and seconded by Marc to amend budget to \$39K for grant awards and \$1K for discretionary funds. Lindsay asks working group to consider an option with fewer restrictions so more organizations would be eligible. Motion Carries.

5. **Public Comment:** None

\*Motion was made by Judy and seconded by Marc to adjourn. Motions carries 9:15 am



**Active Work Group:**

Lindsay Rinaldi (Chair), Jennifer Annand, Judy Carlson, Tina Cassidy, Sarah Ceasar, Elizabeth Lu, Steve Ruddock, Marc Thayer, & Travis Tripoldi

**Summary of Work:**

*The NACP work group met remotely 5 times June-September to begin the framework for the Nashua Arts & Culture Plan. Discussions began with why the plan is necessary, identifying target audience, and how will it be used. A thorough examination of the previous Nashua Arts & Culture Plan (2014) was conducted, as well as research on plans from other cities and organizations as a basis for comparison. This exercise guided the group towards a favored form and shape for our plan. Additional brainstorming sessions and submitted drafts of ideas and important concepts revealed common goals, beliefs, and a vision statement to guide the plan.*

**[Seeking Commission vote to approve and accept the Proposed Vision Statement only at this time]**

**Proposed Vision Statement:**

Nashua is a creative city where the arts energize life and enhance experiences for residents and visitors with ongoing Citywide support.

**[Seeking Commission feedback only on the Goals and Beliefs at this time]**

**Goals:**

*Ultimately, the group identified 4 goals (in no particular order) to include in the plan (but not necessarily with the exact wording) listed below:*

**Goal 1:** Enhance Economic Impact

**Goal 2:** Cultivate Collaboration

**Goal 3:** Support Arts Education

**Goal 4:** Increase Awareness

*\*The group is still considering the addition of a 5th goal.*

**Our Beliefs:**

- Arts and culture are the heart and soul of every city enhancing the quality of life of all citizens.
- Arts and culture - the creative economy - is a community asset that strengthens the local economy and draws visitors to Nashua.
- Arts and culture provide a common language that brings together diverse populations.
- Arts and culture should be accessible to all.
- A vibrant arts community requires collaboration between artists, arts organizations, municipal government, and business organizations with a strong citizen volunteer base.

Nashua Arts Commission Budget Proposal 9/8/20

<b>NAC Budget</b>	<b>Raw Budget 20/21</b>	<b>Actuals 19/20</b>	<b>Budget 19/20</b>
<b>Total Allocated Funds 20/21</b>	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
<i>Date funds are released</i>	?	7/1/2019	7/1/2019
<b>Expenses</b>			
Grant Awards	\$35,000.00	\$37,000.00	\$35,000.00
Discretionary Funds	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00
Workshops	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Marketing	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Special Projects	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Remaining Funds</b>	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
	Spending Deadline 6/8/21		