

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD**  
**Arts Advisory Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, April 6 2021  
5:00pm

**MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**Draft Minutes**

**1. Called To Order at 5:06 pm**

Kim Bova	X	<a href="mailto:kbova@charter.net">kbova@charter.net;</a>
David Vaughan	X	<a href="mailto:dhvaughan@charter.net">dhvaughan@charter.net;</a>
Judy McChesney	X	<a href="mailto:judy.mcchesney@gmail.com">judy.mcchesney@gmail.com;</a>
Ann Williams	X	<a href="mailto:anndavew@charter.net">anndavew@charter.net;</a>
Susan Meisler	X	<a href="mailto:ssnmslr@att.net">ssnmslr@att.net;</a>
Kimberly Blair Rontey, MCC Liaison	X	<a href="mailto:ronteyKM@mansfieldCT.org">ronteyKM@mansfieldCT.org;</a>
Alicia Welch	X	<a href="mailto:Alicia062502@gmail.com">Alicia062502@gmail.com;</a>
Sarah Kaufold	X	<a href="mailto:kaufolds@gmail.com">kaufolds@gmail.com;</a>
Anisah Richardson, MCC Staff	X	<a href="mailto:RichardsonA@mansfieldCT.org">RichardsonA@mansfieldCT.org</a>

Town manager Ryan Aylesworth was in attendance to speak to item 8 on the agenda, which was discussed immediately following the approval of minutes.

**2. Minutes of meeting on 3/2/21 approved and seconded.**

**3. No Public Comments**

**4. No Public Correspondence**

**5. Pending artwork – EOS student pieces**

Heather Bunnell asked for approval of two additional student sculptures for inclusion in the entrance cases of the community center. Both were approved, and it was suggested that the student who created the sculptured head may want to write a brief description of what s/he wanted to convey to the viewer. Judy will pass that suggestion to Heather and arrange for the installation.

**6. Summer Virtual Art Show on June 1<sup>st</sup>; submission deadline April 19.**

The AAC website will collect submissions. Sarah will assist Anisah with Conva, the on-line software to make videos. Kim R. will send text of notice to us. Kim B. will send the notice to Peggy Church who will distribute it to Windham Arts. Kim R. will also use our list of previous entrants to email text of notice of the upcoming show. David will email UConn and Eastern professors a notice to share with their art classes. The show will consist of visual art only. Work submitted will be evaluated at our next meeting, 5/4.

**7. Plein Air Painting in the Parks – “Art in Wild Spaces”**

Local Parks and Rec offer Plein Air Painting in our parks during warmer weather. Sarah, along with Blanche Serban, has been expanding that idea, discussing connecting music and painting, taking the arts outside into our parks, and connecting the public to the arts in a natural setting – a time to get outside and enjoy nature and art after our long enforced hibernation! She envisions a weekend excursion, accompanied by a trail map, that would take you through an area park where small chamber groups would be stationed, plein air painters would be interpreting the scenery – live art and live performance at pre-announced times for the public’s enjoyment. Sarah has been consulting with the town council, Parks and Rec, the Hop River Chamber Ensemble, Last Green Valley and Joshua’s Trust to bring this idea to fruition, and there may be a small tour at the end of June, and a larger one to coincide with Walktober in the fall. The idea is to lift people’s spirits and engage in the world outside via a self-guided tour.

Our committee offered its support and Sarah will follow up with us on what help she needs.

**8. MLK Mural Project** Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth joined us to explain.

Rise Up is the CT sponsoring organization whose mission is “to inspire youth to be the catalyst that lifts and inspires their community.” Thirty-nine CT communities, including Mansfield, have volunteered to create murals commemorating the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. A call is going out for

a lead muralist and emerging artists to participate, as well as local volunteers. The Human Rights Institute at UConn will help with fund-raising \$7500 to pay for a muralist stipend and associated materials expenses, with a budget ceiling of \$15,000 (of which half is raised by the town as noted above.) The design of the mural will celebrate an aspect of MLK's life. The design is up to the community, in collaboration with the lead muralist. A specific site is to be determined within the town. The goal is to complete the mural before Indigenous Peoples' Day (which has replaced Columbus Day in October) and have it dedicated on that holiday. We asked Ryan how we could be most helpful. He would like one or two of us to be a liaison to the Human Rights Committee. The AAC voted unanimously to be supportive of this project, along with Kim R. and Anisah. Those who would like to be considered for the liaison position, please send an email to Anisah.

**Addendum:** No decision was made last month to hold the Artist Brown Bag Lunch, so the email invite will be sent soon to area artists inviting them to meet via zoom. Judy will send an email for approval to Kim B. and Sarah, (we will facilitate the meeting) and to determine a meeting date. When that is arranged, we will ask Anisah to send it out to the artist who participated in 2019.

Next regular meeting to be held **Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 5:00pm**

**Meeting adjourned** at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy McChesney