



**Planning & Development Department**  
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**MINUTES**  
**ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7 pm**  
**Coheco Room**  
**33 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH**

**Arts and Culture**  
**Commission**  
Matt Wyatt (Chair)  
Elaine Lauterborn  
Amy Regan  
Katie Hogan O'Connor,  
Poet Laureate  
Liz Tonkins-Agea  
Beth Wittenberg  
Amy Cann

**Present**

Matthew Wyatt, *Chair*  
Elaine Lauterborn, City Council Representative  
Amy Reagan  
Katie O'Conner  
Liz Tonkins-Agea

**(The minutes were Approved May 18, 2018)**

**Call to Order**

Mr. Wyatt called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

**I. Recap of Rochester Arts Awards**

There was a general discussion regarding the Rochester Arts Awards in 2017. There is a film link on the website for the event. Next year it will be move back to the Governors Inn for August 13. This will reduce expenses because there will not be a need for a tent. There were not enough drinks for people last year. There were 100 people in attendance for the event. How do we get more people to celebrate the arts?

**II. Election of New Chair and Vice Chair**

The commission voted for Matt Wyatt to serve as the Chair and Liz Tonkins-Agea to serve as Vice Chair.

*A motion was made by Ms. Lauterborn and seconded by Ms. O'Conner to elect Matt Wyatt as Chair and Liz Tonkins- Agea to serve as Vice Chair. The motion carried unanimously.*

**III. Statement of Interest**

The Commission members discussed how to get more members to join the Commission. Sherri who owns the Artisan Gallery would be a great business member addition.

**IV. Contact information for City Clerk**

The Commission members updated the information for the City Clerk's office.

**V. Schedule for 2018**

The next Arts and Culture Commission meeting will be held May 17, 2018 to plan for the Rochester Arts Awards.

**VI. Rochester Art Awards**

- Rochester Art Awards 2017 recap
- Select honorees

The Commission members discussed some honorees for the 2018 Rochester Arts Awards.

- Letter to Honorees

Letters to honorees will be sent out after the meeting in May to attend the Rochester Arts Awards.

- Website update

Mr. Wyatt has been working on updating the Arts and Culture website.

**VII. Other business**

Ms. Lauterborn discusses reaching out to other contacts to join the Arts and Culture Commission. Mr. Wyatt gave an update of the shows at the Rochester Opera House and Rochester Performing Arts Center. Ms. O'Conner asked about a poetry wall in the city. The Commission recommended that she reach out to the recreation department.

**VIII. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ms. Lauterborn and seconded by Ms. O'Conner to adjourn at 8:50pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Mears  
Senior Planner