

City of Rochester Arts & Culture Commission
Wednesday September 21, 2022
Community Center Community Room
150 Wakefield Street

(These minutes were approved on December 13, 2022)

Members Present

Palana Belken, *Chair*
Ashley Desrochers
Kristin Ebbeson
Ed Pacht, *Poet Laureate*
Marie Lejune
Nicole Lee
Sarah Rowe
Olivia Miller

Members Absent

Chloe White

Staff: Shanna B. Saunders, *Director of Planning & Development*

(There are the legal minutes of the meeting and are in the format of an overview of the meeting.)

- I. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 6:33PM
- II. **Roll Call** – S. Saunders conducted a silent roll call.
- III. **Membership** – There was discussion about whether Sarah Rowe had been officially voted to the Board yet by the Council. A. Desrochers confirmed she is on the Appointments Committee.
- IV. **Approval of minutes from August 17, 2022** – A. Desrochers moved to approve. E. Pacht seconded. Passed unanimously.
- V. **Update on Downtown Mural additions** – no updates this month.
- VI. **Rochester Art Awards** – We have 10 recipients. S. Saunders will print the award certificates get them signed by the Mayor and get them to Kris Ebbeson to frame. P. Belken will MC. Ashley and Sarah can help as well. There was discussion about the type of award certificate and if we could provide anything other than the certificate.
- VII. **Historic and Cultural Master Plan** – S. Saunders explained that this chapter of the Master plan is a joint historic and cultural chapter. This will be a joint project between the Historic District Commission and the Arts and Culture Commission. Once a consultant is on board we'll have him or her come to the Meeting to discuss Arts and Culture priorities. S. Saunders

discussed that bids open tomorrow. There was discussion about folk that might be interested in completing it including SRPC and the former director of the Seacoast Rep Theatre.

VIII. Other Business

- a. E. Pacht and P. Belken let everyone know that the book of Ed's poetry will be finished next month.
- b. E. Pacht talked about his work in NH Schools as Rochester's Poet Laureate and submitted some photos for the record.
- c. Porchfest is this weekend.
- d. S. Saunders spoke about the NH business Committee for the Arts
- e. Kris discussed the upcoming shows at her Gallery on N. Main Street

IX. Adjournment