

**VILLAGE OF GRAFTON**  
**PUBLIC ARTS BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2012**

Chair Erin Blum called the Public Arts Board meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

Public Arts Board members present: Jay Batista, Erin Blum, Mary Mendla, and Joan Warwick

Public Arts Board members absent: Trustee Dave Antoine, Paula Christensen, and Robert Wagner

Staff / Officials present: Administrative Assistant Katie Salatto

Public present: Bill and Sue Hass, 1226 Water Terrace

**HEAR PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD**

None.

**MINUTES**

Motion by Jay Batista seconded by Joan Warwick, to approve the November 26, 2012 Public Arts Board meeting minutes, as presented. Approved unanimously.

**GUITAR ART AUCTION – MARKETING IDEAS**

Jay Batista stated that the guitars should be placed in the Arts Mill and that prices should be marked up in order to sell with commission going to the Arts Mill.

All members present agreed that Mr. Batista's idea was good.

Erin Blum and Mary Mendla stated that the Public Arts Board should wait until more members are present to vote on Mr. Batista's idea. Mr. Batista agreed and stated that they should ask Paula's permission at the next meeting as well.

**BRIDGE STREET DAM LIGHTING PROJECT – UPDATE AND FUNDRAISING IDEAS**

Administrative Assistant Katie Salatto stated that the Village Board authorized the inclusion of a conduit to increase the ease of installing any lighting feature in the future should funds be raised.

Erin Blum asked for ideas to fund the project. She stated that Robert Wagner and Jay Batista went to a Board of Public Works meeting in summer to present ideas for the project which included LED lighting. Ms. Blum questioned whether or not LED lighting would create light pollution and the idea of non-pollution LED lighting was well received by only a few of the Board of Public Works members; however if the Arts Board could come up with funding, then the Village Board would not stop them from proceeding with the project.

Jay Batista stated that the quote is between \$20,000 - \$30,000. He explained that LED lights have the ability to be programmed and to change colors. Mr. Batista also stated that LED light

gets softer as the lights get older instead of burning out. He pointed out that this would give them time to replace the bulbs.

Village residents Bill and Sue Hass stated that it takes a lot of wattage to light the face of the dam. They suggested either darkening the dam or front-lighting instead of back-lighting for the LED lights to show better.

Erin Blum suggested lighting under the Bridge Street bridge and the WIS 60 bridge to illuminate the top of the water at night.

Jay Batista stated that he liked the idea of lights under the Bridge Street bridge as an attraction to be seen from WIS 60.

Bill Hass stated that the Bridge Street bridge has a large, white support beam that would make for a great canvass to view from WIS 60. He stated that the beam would work very well to light up in addition to lighting any support structures.

Mary Mendla stated that the project will give Grafton an identity separate from Cedarburg by providing a more contemporary feel. Sue Hass agreed and stated that Grafton has always been defined by its water as being its key feature and that this project helps to promote that idea.

Mr. Batista suggested the Public Arts Board take the project in steps. He stated that this should most likely be a multi-year project in order to better their chances for funding.

Erin Blum stated that the cost of the project needs to be figured out. She asked for proposals from lighting contractors. Jay Batista stated that it would be best to involve Director of Public Works Dave Murphy in on their ideas from the beginning.

Sue Hass volunteered to create a mock version of the project.

Members discussed funding ideas which included both a raffle and a hosted event conducted by Paula Christensen. Other ideas included sleigh rides for the holidays, photo opportunities around Grafton, and writing letters to large companies for donations to the project.

Jay Batista suggested selling name bricks to people who wish to donate to the project. He stated it would be a wonderful way for someone's name to last throughout the years in a nicely landscaped area. Sue Hass stated that Mr. Batista's idea could dovetail into the Grafton 'G' that Village President Jim Brunquell wants to put into a project that is already in progress. Joan Warwick stated that the bricks would be a wonderful way to get local people to donate in addition to businesses.

Erin Blum liked the idea and suggested tabling the discussion until the next meeting.

## **STATUS OF 2013 POETRY PATHS – UPDATE AND FUNDRAISING IDEAS**

No update.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Gateway Project Update

No update. Save for next meeting.

### Performance Event Ideas

Jay Batista stated that the Public Arts Board needs to put out a notice to ask for volunteers in order to create a sub-committee for the performance event. Mr. Batista pointed out that it typically takes an entire team of people working all year long to host an event such as Gathering on the Green.

Joan Warwick stated that her daughter has done fundraising events in the past and might be interested in helping with the performance event. Ms. Warwick agreed to ask her daughter and stated that she would update everyone at the next meeting.

Jay Batista recommended advertising to the public for an open meeting to ask for volunteers. Mr. Batista also stated that the Public Arts Board should contact Mequon's committee to get a professional opinion on where to rent stages from and what the potential cost will be.

Erin Blum stated that it is better to take this project slow and do it right rather than rushing it and having it not turn out.

Jay Batista re-stated the importance of creating a sub-committee, as everyone on the Public Arts Board is too busy to pull the event off on their own.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Jay Batista stated that the Public Arts Board should consider finding a building in Grafton where local artists and art groups could set-up a co-op.

Erin Blum stated that she thinks the Arts Mill is a co-op. Mr. Batista stated that he is not aware whether the Arts Mill was considered one or not. He also stated that he would not want his idea of a co-op to take compete with any thriving local businesses or other co-ops.

Ms. Blum stated that the topic should be tabled until more information is gathered on the Arts Mill. She suggested revisiting this topic at the next meeting.

### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

Erin Blum stated that the next Public Arts Board meeting will be on January 14, 2013.

### **ADJOURN**

Motion by Erin Blum, seconded by Jay Batista, to adjourn at 6:05 p.m. Approved unanimously.