

Westport Arts Advisory Committee
Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 12 noon, Town Hall room 201

Present: Nancy Diamond, Shobana Mani, Kathie Bennewitz, Miggs Burroughs, Eric Chiang, Frederic Chiu, Richard Epstein, Jessica Noyes, Elizabeth Strick.

Guests: Randy Herbertson, Harris Falk

Unable to attend: Lee Goldberg, Jerri Graham, Charles Rosoff, Dina Upton

Call to order: 12:00 pm, Nancy Diamond

Downtown Planning implementation Committee (DPIC):

Chair DPIC Randy Herbertson presented slides of the Downtown plan, which included the River Walk, a Post Road cultural area and Parker Harding parking area. The River Walk plan, where construction hopefully will begin this summer, will result in fewer parking spaces but more green space with native trees and plants; and public art. Down the road, the Post Road cultural area will include a children's playground on Jesup Green and some public art. Information on these projects can be viewed on the Town web site; downtownwestportct.com

The WAAC sub-committee will meet to research sculpture for the downtown area. DPIC's hope is to acquire one 'monumental' piece, one 'environmental' piece and several small works for Parker Harding, through private donations. WAAC will pass its recommendations on to DPIC. Dina Upton will liaise between WAAC and DPIC.

"Let's Connect"

The "Lets Connect" group, which provides arts organizations a platform to meet and share information, met at MOCA on Tues, Feb 7.

Committee suggestions going forward were to have "Lets Connect" meetings twice a year, invite two reps from two different groups to join our monthly meeting, set up a Facebook chat space for the group, allocate funds for "Let's Connect" to hire a media person. Shobana and Kathie to meet and review possible people for the position.

After discussion, it was agreed Nancy will send an email to participants thanking them for their participation and report the above.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Elizabeth Strick, Secretary, Westport Arts Advisory Committee