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Jennifer Johnston-Marius
Director

Regular Meeting
Town of Vernon Cultural District Advisory Board
Tuesday, September 27th, 2022 at 6:30 pm
Rockville Public Library, 52 Union Street
Vernon, CT

Approved Minutes

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
22 NOV - 7 AM 9: 21

1. Call to Order – Jennifer Johnston-Marius called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.
Members Present: Tammy Eldredge Leslie Campolongo
 Jim Sendrak Liz Bologna
 Ken Kaplan

Members Missing: Bree Maxwell Robin Castro
 Sandra Justin

2. Approval of Minutes – Leslie Campolongo moved to approve the minutes. Second by Jim Sendrak.
Minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Updates from Staff Liaison
 - Upcoming Events – Trunk or Treat in Henry Park on 10/27
 - Jennifer shared updates about the video that Jean Luddy (Vernon Historical Society) and her brother were creating to be used on the evening of Winerfest in the library. Ken mentioned that he has some drone shots of town that might be nice to include in the clip. He would like to assist in the making of the video. Jennifer will share his contacts with Jean. We talked about some of the language that would be best to use in the video. Leslie will work on an opening and closing and share with us.

4. Old Business:
 - a. Advisory Board Vision and Goals
-We spent time talking about what the vision of the Cultural District Advisory Board should be. We shared a variety of words that we thought of when thinking about the district. After much workshopping and iteration, we settled on the following vision statement. ***The Vision of the Vernon Cultural District is to be a destination that enhances the character of the community through creative experiences, cultural events and artistry.*** The group decided to delay a vote to adopt this as the official vision until the October 25th, ensuring that the missing members could be part of this decision.



b. District Map

- Tammy shared the map that she created that shows the Cultural assets and the green spaces that are within the proposed cultural district. She recommended that we place restaurants and cultural clubs on the map as well, and the group agreed. It was also decided that, when possible, to include websites of each entity, as this will be helpful later for an official tourist map. It was also suggested that the line around the district be darkened, and if possible to decrease the amount of the surrounding area to create more white space. Tammy will make these updates and share at the next meeting.

c. Winterfest


- The group is still in agreement to present the video on the evening of Winterfest at the Library, as there will be other activities in the building that will draw people in. Jennifer shared updates about the video that Jean Luddy (Vernon Historical Society) and her brother are creating to be used on the evening of Winterfest in the library. Ken mentioned that he has some drone shots of town that might be nice to include in the clip. He would like to assist in the making of the video. Jennifer will share his contacts with Jean. We talked about some of the language that would be best to use in the video. Leslie will work on opening and closing wording and share with us.

d. Member comments, questions

- Ken Kaplan expressed his concern for the amount of litter that is found within the Cultural District area. He suggests that we need to focus on a long-term solution, as we want the area to be clean, especially as we are working to draw more attraction to the downtown area. Some ideas presented were: more garbage cans in area that are attached to poles, finding volunteers to routinely pick up litter, town wide clean up before major events.

e. Adjournment -8:20 Leslie Campolongo made a motion to adjourn and Liz Bologna second. Approved unanimously.

Signed,



Jennifer Johnston-Marius

