West Concord Junction
Cultural District Committee
Meeting Minutes
Feb 2, 2021
Online Zoom Video Session

Members present: Carlene Hempel (chair), Margot Kimball, Jen Montbach, Ann Sussman, Kate Yoder

Members absent: Lisa Evans

Visitors: Terri Ackerman, member of the Select Board and liaison to the WCJCDC; Susan Mlodozeniec, member of the West Concord Advisory Committee and liaison to the WCJCDC; Marcia Rasmussen, director of planning and land management, Town of Concord.

The meeting began at 7:03 p.m.

Administrative business:

1/ Discussion of MCC grant application: The group reviewed the MCC grant application and adjusted some of the numbers up to the $7,500 cap. We decided to query a couple of local designers to get a better handle on what it would take to design our new map/brochure. We also talked about where we could locate a new bulletin board for community events and announcements. We agreed to speak to Debra Stark about the alley between her store and the old 5&10. We also talked about the potential of locating a map and kiosk in the space on Commonwealth Avenue where the Concord Park sign currently is.

2/ Storefronts as mini art galleries, in West Concord and town-wide: Kate proposed creating a program that would locate a temporary art gallery in any Village storefront that becomes vacant and until there is a new tenant. Marcia said she would share this idea with town officials and other boards and business groups. Marcia said other nearby towns have done this and gone so far as to fine businesses that don’t participate up to $100 a day. The group talked about how to identify artists who could participate including those at ArtScape, as well as kids from the high school. Kate suggested creating a “best practices” sheet about the program so other districts in Concord could do the same.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlene Hempel, chair