

**RIVER ARTS DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**CITY OF WISCONSIN DELLS**  
**JUNE 26, 2017**

Chairperson Freel called the meeting to order at 5:00P.M. Notice of the meeting was provided to the *Dells Events*, WNNO Radio, and posted in accordance with State Statutes.

1. Present: Ald. Mike Freel, Jenifer Dobbs, Danielle Rodwell, Mike Showalter and Tom Lines  
  
Excused: Bonnie Hayskar  
  
Others: Ald. Brian Holzem, Ald. Ben Anderson, City Clerk/Coordinator Nancy Holzem, City Planner/Zoning Administrator Chris Tollaksen, Melanie Tallmadge-Sainz, and Ed Legge from the *Dells Events*.
  
2. Motion by Jenifer Dobbs seconded by Mike Showalter to approve the May 15, 2017 meeting minutes. Danielle asked for clarification on what was approved at the last meeting regarding the Steampunk presentation and if had been discussed at any other meetings. It was explained to her that only the theme/art style in the presentation was approved and not any projects or artists, nor had it been discussed at any other RAD meetings. Motion carried unanimously.
  
3. Update on 2017 Summer Entertainment Schedule & Events.  
Jenifer reported that she has been receiving positive feedback on the summer entertainment in the plaza and there has also been lot of community involvement. She noted that there have been a few rain dates so the money saved would be used for a band WoZhaWa weekend. Mike Showalter questioned stage lightening in the plaza. Jenifer stated that lights and a cover are definitely needed for the stage area so funds should be allocated for them in the future. Mike stated that he did have lights in storage that could be used. Jenifer stated that she would discuss it with Chris before the next meeting.
  
4. Mosaic Art Work Proposal. The committee reviewed an art work proposal submitted by Corena Ricks for the retain wall on Broadway in front of the Showboat Saloon. Cost was estimated at \$6,000 with the city providing the bottles. Jenifer stated that she loved the design and use of bottles for it. Mike Showalter stated that the design looks like it's an extension of the Showboat Saloon. He questioned the use of glass bottle bottoms and the potential for them to be broken. He also noted the need for more color in the design. Danielle stated that she loved the flowing river design Corena had presented at the last meeting. She stated her concerns with Corena being paid to do this work and asked for more community involvement. Jenifer stated that the design work could be put out to bid if need be. Ald. Freel pointed out that tax payer money is not being used for this project, but rather donated funds from the Van Wie Foundation. Jenifer stated that this was one small project and that the committee has a long road ahead of it with more projects. Danielle questioned why none of the ideas she and Bonnie presented at the April meeting were moving forward. Jenifer stated that it was too early for a presentation like that to be made in front of a large group of people without the rest of the committee being on board with it. She stated the BID Committee has already approved Corena's proposal and DRC

supported it so the RAD committee should follow the lead of the business leaders of the community and work together with them towards a goal. Mike Showalter asked if there could be a middle ground for the project like just paint. Jenifer stated that the current timeline would entail the painting being done by mid-September and the remaining art work would be done later in the fall. Showalter stated that the project should wait until spring instead of putting it on right before the freeze cycle. Motion by Jenifer seconded Tom to move forward with this project with Corena Ricks as the artist. Motion carried 3-2 with Rodwell and Showalter voting no. Jenifer stated that she will bring several versions of Corena's proposal for the wall to the next meeting so a final decision can be made. Ald. Freel suggested getting the high school art students involved with Corena on the project.

5. L.E.A.F. Mural. Melanie Tallmadge-Sainz from the Little Eagle Arts Foundation shared with the committee a proposed mural project entitled Taking Flight which is a dedication to the bald eagles that can be found in and around the Wisconsin River. The public art mural will be located at one of the stairwells on the northeast side of the Chalet building at 410/414 Broadway. Christopher Sweet will be the artist and the public will be invited to paint on the mural in the community room at the Kilbourn Public Library in late August. The mural should be completed and up by WoZhaWa weekend. Melanie stated that the mural is being funded by a grant and other supporters of L.E.A.F. Additionally she noted that there is a 5-year maintenance plan for the mural. No action was needed by the committee. This was information only.
6. Other Art Work Ideas. The committee discussed different public art display ideas and locations. A committee discussed a raftman's series mural showing the growth and transition of the river, from the Native Americans, to the log men, to the tourist enjoying the river. Locations discussed were the wall across from Fitzgerald's, the side of Wally's building next to the plaza, the side of Olson Paint store and the side of the Dells Boat Company's building. Jenifer suggested that a goal for the next meeting would be to decide on location for the mural series and put together a request for proposals.
7. Next meeting was scheduled for Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm.
8. Motion by Jenifer seconded by Mike Showalter to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

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Nancy R. Holzem  
City Clerk/Coordinator