



City of Chelsea  
Recreation & Cultural Affairs Division  
Minutes  
Tuesday, November 24, 2020 6:30pm

**Members:** Marlene Jennings, Chair; Dakeya Christmas, Co-Chair; Carolina Anzola; Danielle  
**Public:** Alyssa Ericson (soon-to-be member)  
**Staff:** Omar Miranda, Bea Cravatta

**I. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from September 22, 2020 and October 27, 2020 Meetings were unanimously approved.

**II. FY20 Grant Management**

Chelsea Cultural Council FY20 Grants

Tobin Bridge Mural – Bea provided an update on this project. Mural was completed, and it is beautiful. There were a few changes to the proposal and some challenges with communication, but these issues are now resolved. Dakeya Christmas will follow up to ensure that a CCC logo is put on the mural. For future projects, the CCC will ensure that there is language specifying that a CCC logo must appear on public murals.

People of Chelsea – This project is officially finished, following two months of display in the East Wing Gallery at City Hall. Due to the pandemic, fewer residents than expected were able to see the photos. However, Darlene DeVita is planning on displaying the photos at other locations, such as the Chelsea High School and Highland Park. Darlene is working on a final report that will be submitted shortly.

The CCC has received final reports for the following completed projects: Black History Month, Peggy Shippen Project, and Apollinaire. The following projects have been completed and are awaiting final reports: Tobin Bridge Mural, Darlene DeVita’s People of Chelsea, and Jason Tardy Productions.

Review Modifications of all Grants

The remaining LCC FY20 grants will be completed in FY21:

Chelsea Fun Bus (July-Aug 2021); Chelsea Hunger Network (TBD 2021); Chelsea Salsa in the Park (June-Aug 2021); Chelsea Public Library (Date TBD, Marlene will follow up); Chelsea City Stories (Unclear whether this project happened, Carolina will call Eduardo next week and report back); Theaterworks (June 2021), Chelsea Jewish Tours (April-Sept 2021, Bea has spoken to Ellen about needing CCC approval before modifying their project); DC Field Trip (haven’t received funds, unclear how this project will evolve with the pandemic); Governor Bellingham (April 2021); Walnut Street Synagogue (TBD 2021, this is Juliana’s project); BMS Civic Mural (Has all the supplies, moving ahead shortly); Louis Latimer Society (Fall 2021); Hondurenos Unidos de MA (Fall 2021); Matt Frank (March-April 2021, Dakeya to follow up).

Chelsea Heritage Celebrations FY20 Grants

Apollinaire in the Park is complete. They received all of their funds and submitted a final report. The other three projects are outstanding.

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Greenroots - Chelsea Resilience Mural sent a letter to the CCC, detailing some challenges securing access to the parking lot and wall space, and requesting a project modification. In the meantime, they will continue the mural design process, aiming to complete it by Spring 2021. In the future, the CCC will work to ensure that all agreements are in place before grants are approved and funds are distributed. Bea suggests that they should scope out a back-up location. Marlene knows of a local restaurant that is looking for a mural and will follow up. The Council members took a vote to approve this modification. Motion: Dakeya; Second: Danielle. Motion was approved.

David Fichter - Chelsea Heritage Mural has received half of the funds, and is aiming to finish the project in Spring 2021. This is a moveable mural, and he is continuing to work with youth and a steering committee to inform the mural's design. Darlene DeVita's People of Chelsea banner project is ongoing.

### III. Arts and Cultural Planning update

Omar gave an update on the Arts and Culture Visioning community meeting that happened on October 18th. There was decent turnout, and it was great to hear some participation in Spanish. The Visioning Team's monthly meeting focused on how the arts foster and promote economic development. The visioning plan is becoming more concrete, and there was good conversation about the idea of Chelsea as a music city and/or creating a cultural district within the city. It was helpful to also hear input about how other cultural districts started very small, focusing on manageable, near-term goals. At the December meeting, the Visioning Team will dive into the concept of space. This process will be wrapping up in January. The consultants would like to speak with the City Manager and bring in the Cultural Council members via Zoom to review their plan and recommendations.

### IV. LCC and Heritage Celebrations Grants Applications

Local Cultural Council – Deadline was extended to Dec 14 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The review date and Council vote will be in January 2021. Bea will inform Council members when the applications are ready to be picked up.

Chelsea Heritage Grant – The CCC decided to move the review date from Dec 1 to Dec 8 to allow city officials to review the applications as well. Bea encourages the Council members to read the 4 pages of Grant Guidelines in close detail and examine what assurances are needed for the project to succeed. The award range for these grants is higher, and thus these applications necessitate a higher level of scrutiny. Review date: December 8 and Council vote: December 22, 2020.

### New Business

City Hall Gallery – The vendor from Stas came in to look at the East Wing Gallery. Cost estimate was \$880 to install the new picture hanging system. It may also be helpful to paint this space. Bea will put this plan together for the Council members to review and approve, using Heritage Grant resources.

Frank Bernard – Marlene or Natalie will reach out to his mother to procure Frank's drawings for consideration as a permanent collection for the City.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Next Meetings: December 8, 2020 for Heritage Grant review discussion, and December 22, 2020 for monthly meeting and to vote on Heritage Grant awardees.

Recorder: Danielle Kim

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