

# Town of Mansfield

6 Park Row, Mansfield, Massachusetts 02048

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MANSFIELD  
MASSACHUSETTS



## Downtown Committee

### Meeting Minutes 5.2.2023

**Present:** Ms. Eileen Cusack, Mr. George Pantos, Mr. Chris Jackson, and Ms. Martha O'Connell

**Present Virtually:** Mr. Neil Rhein

**Not Present:** Mr. Kevin Dumas, Town Manager, Chair, and Mr. Jack Cooney

**Guests:** Ms. Nancy Griffin, Senior Executive Assistant to the Town Manager, Mr. Josh Reinke, DPW Director and Mr. Chris McDermott, Economic Development Director

**Minutes:** Sharon Varricchione

1. **Call to Order:** The Downtown Committee was called to order at 6:33PM by Mr. Chris Jackson, Acting Chair

2. **Acceptance of Minutes from March 7, 2023:**

**Motion:** To adopt the meeting minutes of March 7, 2023.

**Roll Call:** Mr. Pantos – Yes, Mr. Jackson – Yes, Ms. Cusack – Yes, Ms. O'Connell – Yes, and Mr. Rhein – Yes

**Passes 5:0** (Jackson/Pantos)

3. **Traffic Box Wrapping Discussion:**

Ms. Nancy Griffin spoke with the group regarding the chart steps in order move forward with the process and mentioned the following: A motion is needed to consider to move forward. How many Traffic Boxes do you want to do and what is the cost and parameters. Next is to decide who will design them, commissioning artists or a public outreach and make a motion regarding which way you decide. The Committee reviews the artists submission and chooses artwork. The Application from the Downtown Committee will go to the Select Board along with the approved artwork, the noted locates for the artwork and how it will be funded.

**Motion:** To do the Traffic Light Box Project

**Roll Call:** Mr. Pantos – Yes, Mr. Jackson – Yes, Ms. Cusack – Yes, Ms. O'Connell – Yes, and Mr. Rhein – Yes

**Passes 5:0** (O'Connell/Pantos)

Ms. Griffin then said we can continue discussing next steps or let the motion sit while you consider which path you want to take. Mr. Jackson inquired about a bulk discount price if they did them all at once Ms. Griffin advised that a bulk discount might be possible if all are identical. Ms. Griffin mentioned that anyone can fill out the application and give it to the Select Board. Regarding design, if the Committee wanted a 250<sup>th</sup> art version then the Downtown Committee needs to speak to the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee as they are their own jurisdiction and will have their own logo and they will need to know what the charge is and how to move forward.

The Committee discussed doing the two downtown box locations, if they wanted the artwork to represent 250<sup>th</sup> if the art lasts 10 years and should it represent the Veterans if one of the boxes is near a Veteran Memorial.

**Motion:** To do two Traffic Light Boxes

**Roll Call:** Mr. Pantos – Yes, Mr. Jackson – Yes, Ms. Cusack – Yes, Ms. O'Connell – Yes, and Mr. Rhein – Yes

**Passes 5:0** (Pantos/Cusack)

Ms. Griffin then stated that you know the two downtown Traffic Box locations and believe that the funding is coming from the Town Manager based on conversations at previous meetings. so the next



step is to decide how to solicit: do you tell an artist this is what we want or do you want to make this a community outreach project to artists. Ms. Cusack mentioned that the Morini Art Gallery has art and we could pick one out. Ms. Griffin said you could give any specific criteria such as floral, veterans, etc. The Committee discussed giving a nod regarding pride in our past and to our future. Ms. Griffin suggested the Committee look at the two locations and decide what you would like for a theme. Ms. Cusack mentioned the Relay Postal Gladiola box project and how that gave a nod to history as they had Gladiola farms in the past.

Ms. Cusack mentioned that we only meet once a month, the wrapping only occurs during the warmer months and the decisions should be made soon. Ms. Griffin said this will be on the next agenda.

The Committee discussed that they need to submit everything to the Select Board and how they could advertise to get artists via Town News Letter, the Town Website, Social Media and the TVs in Town Hall. Mr. Reinke suggested to commission two artists to move faster instead of going to the public. The Committee discussed how the artists would get recognition but would be doing the art for free. Mr. McDermott suggested to bring artist samples back next month to review at the next meeting.

**Motion:** To commission artists

**Roll Call:** Mr. Pantos – Yes, Mr. Jackson – Yes, Ms. Cusack – Yes, Ms. O’Connell – Yes, and Mr. Rhein – Yes  
**Passes 5:0 (Cusack/Pantos)**

Ms. Griffin said the next thing is to commission the artists. Ms. Cusack will bring artwork to the next meeting or put a package for the artist saying this is the location and theme for the project. Ms. Griffin stated the downtown Committee representative needs to come forward to the Select Board requesting those two locations that are in the Downtown Locations.

4. **Next Meeting Date:** June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm, future dates below

- |                               |                     |                     |           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| • <del>9/6/22</del>           | • <del>1/3/23</del> | • <del>5/2/23</del> | • 9/5/23  |
| • <del>10/4/22</del>          | • <del>2/7/23</del> | • 6/6/23            | • 10/3/23 |
| • <del>11/8/22 canceled</del> | • <del>3/7/23</del> | • 7/11/23           | • 11/7/23 |
| • <del>12/6/22 canceled</del> | • <del>4/4/23</del> | • 8/1/23            | • 12/5/23 |


5. **Any items not known 48 hours prior:**

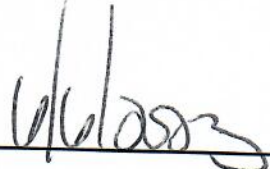
Ms. Cusack – Mentioned a summer event at Fulton’s Pond on a Thursday night.

6. **Adjournment:**

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM.

**Roll Call:** Mr. Pantos – Yes, Mr. Jackson – Yes, Ms. Cusack – Yes, Ms. O’Connell – Yes, and Mr. Rhein – Yes  
**Passes 5:0 (Pantos /O’Connell)**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Dumas, Chair

  
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Date