



## **Lowell City Council**

### **Special Events SC Minutes**

**Michael Q. Geary**  
City Clerk

**Date:** November 2, 2023  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** Council Chamber, City Hall

#### **PRESENT:**

Present on Roll Call were C. Robinson, C. Gitschier and C. Rourke. Also present were City Manager Tom Golden, Jr., Peter Crew, Director Cultural Affairs, Roberto Dei, Special Events Coordinator, Jessica O'Hearn, Director Mosaic Lowell, Howard Amidon, Mosaic Lowell & Greater Lowell Community Foundation, Sothea Chiemruom, Director CMAA.

#### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

C. Robinson called the meeting to order noting the agenda item.

#### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Chairman Robinson called the meeting for the discussion of potential Music and Mural Festival in Cambodia Town in August 2024. Chairman Robinson noted this is the first of hopefully many meetings to get this going. Chairman Robinson then shared a video clip of one of the artist that came down and painted Middlesex Community College Mural. Chairman Robinson noted that the artist would love to come back to the city with 4 or 5 other muralist from Cambodia to work in Cambodia Town with some musical acts. Chairman Robinson explained first thing would be to secure businesses in Cambodia Town that might be willing to donate wall space as this will be a big component. Jessica O'Hearn, Director of Mosaic Lowell said she is excited to see the formation of this committee that is committed to cultural events. Ms. O'Hearn noted what they have learned and the relevance in discussing this event and that their focus for past 7 months has been on marketing festivals and events across the city with collaboration of CASE. Ms. O'Hearn noted currently there are over 30 festivals and events in our city celebrating different events and cultures. Ms. O'Hearn said they have identified needs other than marketing such as fundraising, planning, understanding of permitting processes, resources for food and entertainment, and translation. Ms. O'Hearn noted another area of focus is public arts process and that support for documentation,



maintenance of work across the city. Ms. O'Hearn noted that CASE Office has taken a progressive step in securing a maintenance fund for all City owned public art but there is others that are not city owned. Ms. O'Hearn noted they have established a maintenance fund at the Community Greater Lowell Foundation which started with funds from Mass Development Art and the Acre Project and we have encouraged any group or organization or artist to invest a percentage of their project budget to this fund for any needed repairs or restoration. Chairman Robinson noted these are all great points and noted the potential of opportunity to showcase art murals & music and that the city should be a support system. Sothea Chiemruom, Director CMAA noted the need and support for renovations and maintenance management of projects. Chairman Robinson stated he did file a motion looking into the possibility of establishing a maintenance fund. Peter Crew, Director of Cultural Affairs noted that this was the first year through the budget process that a \$50,000 fund was created specifically for maintenance of city owned public art pieces. Chairman Robinson noted the importance of obtaining prices for a project manager or director and hopes to have another sub/committee in 2 to 3 weeks.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion** to Adjourn by C.Robinson, seconded by C. Gitschier. So voted

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

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Angela Gitschier

Assistant City Clerk