



**January 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes
4:30pm (via Zoom)**

- A. Hello and Happy New Year! Welcome to the first meeting of 2022!
- B. Attendance
- Kelly Blithe, Chair
 - Jennifer Sevilla, Vice Chair
 - Dr. Robert Belvin
 - Megan Cherry
 - Claudio Mir
 - Cassandra Oliveras-Moreno
 - Tracey O'Reggio Clark
 - Melissa Pepin
 - Amanda Potter
 - Daniel Swern
 - Michael Tublin
- C. Windows of Understanding starts next week!
- This year's themes include climate change, economic justice, protest to policy, and public health
 - South Plainfield has joined WOU this year
 - Help spread the word on socials and with your network
 - i. Reposting posts from the WOU Instagram account highly encouraged
 - ii. Share flyers/graphics on socials, emails, and with your contacts
 - iii. A press release is going out and will be available soon
 - Programming
 - i. Stay up to date through the online WOU calendar here:
<https://www.windowsofunderstanding.org/calender>
 - ii. If you have additional program suggestions, please share with the WOU Committee
 - Youth Art
 - i. Details still coming together for the Youth Art with the NBPS and other students
 - ii. Bringing a "Day of Understanding" to the schools, where art is shared across all schools and students have some time to reflect on it together
- D. Student Advisory Committee
- Looking at working with the New Brunswick Public Schools to have Sophomore/Juniors to attend meetings and provide a youth art perspective on WOU and other NBCAC projects throughout the year.
 - Hope to create a stronger bond with the students
- E. Web page on City of New Brunswick's website
- Review to see what updates need to be made on the NBCAC section

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New Brunswick by supporting and establishing arts programs.*



F. Arts & Cultural Trust

- Do we want to create an Arts and Culture Trust to support art and artists? This community investment would create job opportunities for artists
- A New Brunswick Arts and Culture Trust would need to be established by a public referendum that needs go on the ballot and be passed
- How it would work: If you own property in New Brunswick, you are being asked to provide \$0.02 (two cents) for every \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) of valuation. That's only \$20.00 (twenty dollars) for every \$100,000.00 (one hundred thousand dollars) of property value.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 4:30pm



**March 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes
4:30pm (via Zoom)**

A. Hello! Great to see everyone!

B. Attendance

- Kelly Blithe, Chair
- Jennifer Sevilla, Vice Chair
- Dr. Robert Belvin
- Megan Cherry – excused absence
- Claudio Mir
- Cassandra Oliveras-Moreno
- Tracey O'Reggio Clark
- Melissa Pepin
- Amanda Potter
- Daniel Swern – Needs to go at 5pm
- Michael Tublin

C. Windows of Understanding update

- Some of the artwork installation was delayed this year due to COVID, so artwork in most windows was extended through end of March
- This Thursday, March 10 – Community Conversation on Zoom with Metuchen Arts Council and the Metuchen Human Relations Commission. Will feature the Metuchen WOU artists and their partner organizations. Be sure to sign up and spread the word!
- WOU closing reception will be April 1 at American Hungarian Foundation

D. New Brunswick Heart Festival – Sat, August 13 from 3pm-6pm

- 3rd annual! Will be taking the human heart photo on June 14, hope you can join us! Free lunch will be served
- Need vendors, orgs to table and/or to host activities/crafts. We will give you submission links to share

E. Student Advisory Committee

- Kelly and Jennifer to meet to draft description and pitch to NBPS
- Would be for new school year, 2022-23

F. Murals

- Discussion – Is it the responsibility of NBCAC to check on murals in town, that have been up for quite a while to make sure they are kept up, cleaned up, and/still appropriate.
- We can check in with business owners if anything looks like it needs touch up or clean up, but should be up to the business owner

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 4:30pm

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May 10, 2022 Meeting Minutes

A. Attendance

- Kelly Blithe, Chair
- Jennifer Sevilla, Vice Chair
- Dr. Robert Belvin – Excused Absence
- Megan Cherry
- Claudio Mir
- Cassandra Oliveras-Moreno
- Tracey O'Reggio Clark
- Melissa Pepin
- Amanda Potter
- Daniel Swern
- Michael Tublin

B. Windows of Understanding

- Newark Art Museum
 - i. We joined Highland Park Arts Commission and Metuchen Arts Council for Community Day at Newark Art Museum. It was a great event and hope to join again next year. We tabled, handing out WOU flyers, and asking kids to color our Goldfinch coloring pages to help save the Goldfinch. The Goldfinch was featured in WOU artist Kelly Vetter's artwork representing Food & Water Watch.
 - ii. Coloring pages are being collected and will be mailed to Governor Murphy to bring awareness what the current NJ plans will do to harm the goldfinch, the state bird.
 - 1. Read more here:
<https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/04/empower-new-jersey-questions-njs-climate-goals-if-pending-projects-approved-says-38-rise-greenhouse-gas-emissions/>
- Feedback 2022
 - i. Extending the windows helped showcase the art longer, making the artists happy and having more time to bring awareness to the work of the WOU orgs
 - ii. COVID delayed multiple art installations and continued to be tricky to work around but we adapted
- 2023 – June/July start planning
 - i. If anyone would like to join the WOU Committee, let us know! We have now have 4 towns participating and look to extend into possibly Milltown and expand the work in South Plainfield
 - ii. As WOU grows, we will need to create a plan that can be adapted by other towns in NJ

C. New Brunswick Heart Festival – Sat, August 13 from 3pm-6pm

- Come take the Heart photo with us! Tue, June 14 at 12pm – please RSVP with Tracey or Kelly. Free boxed lunch!
- We would like to have a table and run an activity.

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- Craft Vendors
 - i. We need craft vendors, here is the link:
<https://forms.gle/5oYGjP2cmaXpfrTi6>
 - ii. And we need volunteers to help check in and assist with craft vendors
 - We are seeking artists for an opportunity to showcase and sell their visual art at the New Brunswick Heart Festival's Art Market! Help celebrate all of the vibrant art and history that New Brunswick and the County of Middlesex offers by showcasing your art! Application deadline is Tuesday, May 31. Artists can fill out this form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdQm13gU544EpggyXxmyB1UIKjhlGQ8fqwpUbeK6_LrO6PXcg/viewform
- D. Mural Arts planning discussion with Highland Park
- Kelly and Jennifer will join on May 18.
 - HP looking to get a better understanding of the process of installing a mural, community awareness, etc. after recent vandalism of mural
- E. NBCAC meetings – zoom or in-person
- We will keep meeting on Zoom
 - Easier for everyone to make the meetings

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 12, 2022, 4:30pm