

Christa McAuliffe State House Memorial Commission
Meeting Minutes Approved 8/1/2023
Tuesday, June 27, 2023
New Hampshire State Library
20 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301

The Commission convened at 8:04 am.

Members Present: James Scully, Representative Steve Shurtleff, Representative Tim McGough, Sarah Stewart, Jeanne Gerulskis, Karen Rantamaki, Paul Smith, Bill Dunlap, Linda Frawley

Members Absent: Sen. Rebecca Whitley,

James Scully welcomed the group back.

The group voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes from May 16, 2023.

James Scully updated the group that the Governor signed HB 2 appropriating \$500,000 to the statue.

James Scully let the group know that no formal submissions had yet been made, members have heard of some interested parties.

The group discussed evaluation process and options for technical input from those with more technical expertise in sculpting. This input may come from a public hearing where experts are specifically invited to comment in addition to any interested members of the public.

Priorities for the group are for input from technical experts and public transparency. The group would likely whittle the submissions down to a small number and then have a subsequent meeting in August to invite the public to speak.

The group discussed the possibility of artists presenting to the group. They also discussed the process for the group to review the submissions online.

Update from the student engagement subcommittee:

- Suggest a media contest, can include poetry, art, and essays. Put word limit on anything written. Creativity looks different for everyone. Broken down into 3 divisions by age: Elementary, Middle, and High School
- Top 3 from each age group selected, regardless of medium
- Potential for prizes: incorporation in the unveiling program, art displayed at the McAuliffe Center
- Proposal to NHED for help with rollout of the program. Looking right at the first week of school.
- Group has some suggested prompts
 - Legacy

- Exploration
- Education
- More finalized suggestion for NHED at August meeting
- Potential for inviting outside guests as judges
- Submissions from students to come before Christmas
- Include all New Hampshire Students

The group voted unanimously to permit the subcommittee to continue working with NHED on a single media contest with 3 age divisions.

Representative Shurtleff talked about location of the statute. Terry Pfaff noted that there is a tree the is dying that needs to come down on Capitol Street and suggested that be a location.

Jeanne Gerulskis talked about the importance of this group moving forward with Christa's legacy. She also talked about the ribbon cutting for the new space playground on July 17, 2023 at 11 am. Jeanne invited the group.

The group may want to think about future subcommittees that will be needed. Event planning, Public Relations, and Grounds Crew will likely be 3 groups needed.

Public Relations options, WMUR, radio morning shows, preview contest, announce it.

Google form to submit opinions on each submission.

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 from 8-10 am and Thursday, August 24, 2023 meetings. August 1 for the group to review submissions and narrow it down. August 24 for public comment and technical assistance location is TBD.

The meeting concluded at 8:59 am. The next meeting will be Tuesday August 1, 2023 at 8 am at the State Library.