



Ridgway Creative District Creative Advocacy Team • (RCD CAT)

Meeting Minutes



Ridgway Town Hall: 201 North Railroad Street
January 22, 2019

C.A.T. Members: Betsy Baier, Joan Chismire, Brenda Ratcliff, Julia Reid, Sue Lake, Diane Thompson (via teleconference); **Staff:** Diedra Silbert, Karen Christian (notes)

1) Call to Order - @12:10 p.m.

2) Agenda Review - 4.g, 4.h, 5.a, 5.b were deferred to the next meeting

3) For the Good of the Group - An activity that Betsy had in mind was not feasible due to weather. Betsy reminded the group that the purpose of this part of the meeting is to “warm up” the group, inspire, and/or get creativity flowing. She asked everyone to report announcements during the “Upcoming Events/Needs” or a new Announcements section of the agenda.

4) Old Business

a) Approval of Meeting Minutes - Nov. 13, Dec. 11, and Jan. 4* - approved via consensus

b) Film Festival Discussion* - Mayor John Clark gave a brief history of the Film Fest for the new members. He explained how the Film Fest ended up focusing on international films last year. He discussed the RCD relationship with the Sherbino to hold and promote this event. He noted the Sherbino would like “equal billing” on the event and the relationship between RCD and the Chautauqua Society needs to be more clearly defined through an event agreement and possibly a general organizational agreement. John said that the Sherbino would likely take on this event, if the C.A.T. does not want to continue with the Film Fest. There was discussion about recruiting more local and statewide filmmakers for participation. John plans to design a custom entry form for the Film Freeway website. He also said that Jim Courson is interested in leading the subcommittee this year while John will remain engaged. The group discussed pros and cons of an active subcommittee such as this one, along with the longstanding desire of this group to have additional volunteers sharing the load of planning events and projects. A few C.A.T.s strongly communicated the desire to continue organizing the Film Fest in conjunction with this subgroup. The Team agreed that the C.A.T. needs a team member to act as a Film Fest subcommittee liaison, or, second-best, the subgroup needs to send a representative to the monthly C.A.T. meetings to provide updates. Joan volunteered to act as the C.A.T. representative to the subgroup, if no one else wants to do it. The Team was asked to consider these topics for the next meeting when a decision will be made to confirm the C.A.T.’s continued organizing of the Film Fest and the communication structure.

c) 2019 Events and Project Timeline - Diedra prepared a *2019 Proposed RCD C.A.T. Activities* graph outlining 7 projects and 8 events with their approximate timelines that were agreed on during the budget process. (Please refer to the graph for more detailed information.) The group discussed the feasibility of completing this many projects and the level of energy and commitment that will be required. The projects and events were assigned as follows, although most will require involvement from more than just the leaders for the project, listed below:

- Project 1 Art Piece(mural or other)
- Project 2 Story Plaques (low priority/Parking Lot)
- Project 3 Mailboxes to promote Creatives
- Event 1 Community Potluck
- Event 8 Meet and Greet (possibly combined with the potluck event)

* The above projects/event were combined into one. Assigned to Betsy, Joan, Brenda, Julia, Sue, Diane and Diedra.

- Project 4 Creative Corridor Work - Assigned to Brenda, Diedra, Julia and Joan.
- Project 5 RCD Website Improvements and Project 6 Creative Directory Expansion and Improvements - Assigned to Diedra, Brenda and Ninah.
- Project 7 Heritage Park Gateway improvements Process with Chamber - Assigned to Diedra and Joan
- Event 2 October Old West Fest Exhibit - Assigned to Paula, Amanda, Joan and Brenda
- Events 3,4,5 and 6 First Fridays - Assigned to Brenda, Julia and Betsy
- Event 7 Film Fest - Possibly Joan with subgroup; to be decided at February meeting

i) *CCI Grant Details** - Diedra, Brenda and Betsy will prepare the grant application. The group agreed that the story plaques would be lower priority on the grant application, if they can be included at all, depending on the budget (especially as funds needed for the piece of artwork becomes clearer).

ii) *Healing Arts MoonWalk** - Brenda suggested adding this event to the Parking Lot for the future, until such time as someone volunteers to coordinate it. Julia commented this event was held two years ago and was very successful. She believes healing arts practitioners would like to do it again, but those conversations haven't been had recently. The last location for the event was split between the Community Center, Chipeta Solar Springs Resort, and the providers' studios with an intro activity that not all could attend.

d) *Organizational Participation on C.A.T.** - The group suggested ways to include organizational participation at meetings, such as: organization representatives could attend on a periodic basis, report on their activities, and dialogue with the C.A.T.; each C.A.T. member could be assigned to act as a liaison to specific organization(s) and bring items from them to the C.A.T.; organizations could assign a representative as a C.A.T. member, going through normal C.A.T. processes to be approved by the group and by Town Council. Decision to be made in Feb.

e) *Old West Fest "Art Exhibit" Update* - Paula is the C.A.T. representative for this event (but not in attendance for this discussion). She proposed the following in an email to the Team: 1. several showings of local original art for sale in various mediums displayed at local businesses (The Burro, Tree House and Amulet Arts are open to this idea); 2. Outdoor musicians singing "western" songs near businesses; and 3. A type of Plein Air event with a western theme in Hartwell Park on the Friday of the event with judges, ribbons and cash prizes to be shown on Saturday and Sunday of the event. The group discussed these ideas and wanted to simplify activities for Old West Fest, given all the projects the C.A.T. has taken on this year. Members weren't very interested in the work it would take to organize showings of artwork at many businesses, plus some have their own. Showing and selling artwork created at PARC's Plein Air event the week before was the preferred option, which requires coordinating with PARC about doing this. Diedra and Pam had discussed this previously as a possibility. The C.A.T.s discussed the idea of directing artists to paint plein air near one of the local ranches or Last Dollar Ranch; or providing an art display tent in Hartwell Park for either any local art, or art from the Plein Air event. The group also felt the musicians may not be needed but did like the idea of

wandering musicians, especially in Hartwell Park. Due to time constraints the Team agreed to continue the discussion at another meeting.

f) Salida Convening and Summit Attendees* - This event is May 15-17. Diedra explained that only five people can attend the Convening, and eight have volunteered. In addition, this item was inadvertently left off the RCD budget, so there is a shortage of funds. She asked everyone who wants to attend to double check their schedules and let her know who is truly committed to going. It is possible that the shortage of funds may result in people needing to chip in for the costs. Betsy will research houses to share which could save some money.

g) C.A.T.s and Community Events* - tabled

h) Parking Lot Process* - tabled

5) New Business

a) *Graphic Designer Need* – Diedra expressed concern about filling the graphic designer void Rick left. The Group agreed a graphic designer is needed on the team and discussed possible recruits. Brenda volunteered to do some graphic design for the Team but agreed that utilizing other people for more in-depth graphic design would be preferred.

b) *Creative Corridor 2019* - tabled

6) Next RCD CAT Meeting – Tuesday, Feb. 19, 12:00-2:00PM (time adjusted)

7) **Upcoming Events/Needs** (second page) – Betsy asked the group if this section is beneficial because of the time required for Diedra to compile the event listings from community calendars. Some in the group felt there is value in continuing to provide the information. This item had been tabled and will be discussed again at the Feb. meeting.

8) **Reflection on Meeting, Tasks, and Next Agenda:** Betsy noted she was impressed with how much got accomplished in the meeting! For next agenda:

- *RCD Collaboration Structure (Sue and Diedra)*
- *C.A.T. Procedures and Guidelines*

9) Adjourn – @2:p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Christian
Deputy Clerk

PARKING LOT

1. Grant Ideas:

- Outdoor murals or other public art
- Space to Create lot activation
- Alley Art additions and restoration
- Story Plaques

2. Activating Spaces in the Community (“outside eyes” tours)

3. Inside / Outside RCD events discussion

4. Sherbino/Weehawken Representation/Organizational C.A.T. “members”

5. Adding existing public art placements into local Creative Corridor brochure/map

6. Bear Paw representation to honor Native heritage

7. Alpenglow and other calendar coordination

8. Healing Arts Moon Walk