



The Cannelton Chronicle

RENEW CANNELTON'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

A 501(C)3 Non-Profit Organization

VISIT US AT WWW.RENEWCANNELTON.ORG TO SUPPORT, BECOME A VOLUNTEER AND GROW OUR COMMUNITY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND ONE OF OUR MEETINGS, CALL 812-719-2756 TO GET THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE.

4th Quarter 2024 Issue

FLOODWALL MURAL PROJECT STOPPED BY CITY

FLOODWALL MURAL AS OF NOW



Dear Readers:

Renew Cannelton, Inc. (RCI) has been working since August of 2023 on our Floodwall Mural Project. The project is being completely paid for by RCI and has cost the city and its taxpayers absolutely NOTHING! Everyone working on the project has been volunteering their time including the artist. RCI is supplying all paint and materials to the project from donations. A mural of this size (approximately 100 feet in length and 16 feet high) would cost the City tens of thousands of dollars to have done. Any other community would be thrilled to have an impressive work of art like this in their downtown as a major city attraction...but apparently not this administration.

Even though our volunteers have worked hundreds of hours on the project in the evening, on weekends and holidays in the heat and the cold, the painting was progressing slower than we anticipated when we signed the year's License Agreement with the previous city administration. We had not worked on a project of this type before, and had estimated it could be done in a year. But in case that didn't happen, a clause was included in the Agreement stating it could be amended and extended if both parties agreed.

On November 18th the present City of Cannelton Board of Public Works (Smokey Graves, Robert Durbin and Michelle Thimling) voted to terminate our agreement without considering our request for an extension saying only that we had missed the deadline and failed to request an extension before the deadline passed. The Mayor did not publicly read RCI's letter requesting an extension of the agreement date and also refused to allow any discussion pertaining to the agreement extension at that meeting.

There is nothing in the Agreement that states it is mandatory for the City to terminate the Agreement if the deadline is missed. A new agreement could be entered into at any time. A member of the present administration strongly opposed the previous administration's permission allowing RCI to do the project, saying he did not want that mural in front of his property and further, that he would sell his property in Cannelton and leave town if the City approved RCI to do the project. He was that opposed to RCI being allowed to go forward with their proposed floodwall mural. The City approved RCI's design over his objections; however, this man did not sell his property or leave town. In fact, he is now a member of the present City administration. It appears he has influenced the Mayor and the members of the Board of Public Works to use the missed deadline as an excuse to keep RCI from completing the project. We ask you; do you really want our City Administration operating on a basis of one individual's grievances—especially when completed, the project will be a tremendous public asset to the entire community?

RCI wants to see this project completed and would like the Mayor and the Board of Public Works to allow a contract extension for work on the mural to go forward with the present artist being able to complete it. If you would like to see this project completed by RCI, please contact any member of the City of Cannelton Board of Public Works to demand that they work out a new agreement. Three people, one of whom wasn't even elected by the citizens of Cannelton, should not be able to deprive the rest of the citizenry of this exception gift.

Thank you for your support of this very worthwhile community attraction!

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EVENTS



DECK THE HALLS

Winners

1st Place Residential-
Chester & Jeanie Hess
2nd Place Residential-
Whitley Conrad
3rd Place Residential Co-
Winners-
Ryan & Edie Powers &
Jimmy & Jennifer Mafia

1st Place Non-Residential-
Cannelton Utilities
2nd Place Non-Residential
-La Bella Salon & Spa

JOIN US

We are always looking for dedicated volunteers willing to assist in preserving the older, historic structures that set Cannelton apart from other communities. Join us by visiting

