

TOWN OF VERNON



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VERNON AND UCONN ANNOUNCE PUBLIC FORUMS FOR ARTS FEASIBILITY STUDY

Forums Scheduled for September 24th and October 8th

(VERNON) – Mayor Daniel A. Champagne announced today that the University of Connecticut’s (UConn) Arts Administration program will host two forums to gather public opinion as part of the graduate programs’ feasibility study for the development and management of the Town’s former Senior Center, located at 26 Park Place, as a performing arts center.

Under the direction of Dr. Constance DeVereaux, Director of UConn Arts Administration program, UConn’s community engagement activities will include a combination of public forums, focus groups, survey research, interviews, and the compilation of demographics and other statistical information. The group has created the hashtag #ParkPlaceVernon to raise awareness of the project.

“The Arts enrich us not only by the cultural value that they bring, but more importantly by fostering a sense of community,” said Mayor Champagne. “We are excited to be in partnership with UConn and begin the process of enriching the arts experience in Vernon. I invite residents and local community members with an interest in the arts to participate in either meeting and to lend their voice to this important project.”

“The arts are a vital part of sustainable communities in the 21st century,” said Dr. DeVereaux. “Projects like this one help to highlight the benefits that an arts infrastructure can bring to a town like Vernon. There is enough evidence to show that well-developed arts venues can lift the economy, promote social well-being, and provide community cohesion. Our study will look at the degree to which these aims can be achieved in Vernon.”

The first public forum will be held on Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the Rockville Public Library (Peck Room), located at 52 Union Street. A second forum will be held on Tuesday, October 8th, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the Center Road School Library, located at 20 Center Road. The forums are open to the public and no reservation is required.

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