

Arts & Tourism Meeting Minutes - 7/11/22 Town Hall Council Chamber 7 pm

Attendees: Morgan Santos, Megan Brabec, Onica Berger, Aimee Gigandet, Debra Smith & Valerie Toukatly

Also in attendance: Bart McDonough, Community Development & Planning Director, three members of the Lamprey Arts & Culture Alliance (LACA): John Herman, Rich Dipipo, and Derek Price

Meeting called to order 7:03pm

Introductions and brief discussion of collaborating with LACA and members of the public.

Onica made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting, Debra accepted.

Old Business

- Laura and Chris Klemmer have decided not to renew their terms but their efforts with the Arts & Tourism committee are greatly appreciated.
- Discussed our communication restrictions: Debra shared the Right to Know laws. No decisions can be made privately. Movement of money also has to be documented. We can however communicate via phone or email as long as no decisions are made independently.

Arts in the Park

- Debra has obtained the previous list of artists involved and spoke to one of the artists. It sounded as though there was not communication of our current goals with Arts in the Park artists (demos, displays etc.) The artist, Emelia Ponomarev, provided a felted pin for first drawing.
- Debra has provided coloring pages, and pencils and clipboards for community members to use and enter to win the pin.
- We reviewed the speech for A+T members to give during Arts in the Park events.
- Reviewed the draft poster for Artist Among Us event which will be displayed at Arts in the Park and online via the Town newsletter.
- Val to share the MillSpace artist roster with Debra and the committee for a future Newmarket artist list publication.
- We discussed the plan for the first Arts in the Park event, how and when to present our contest information. We decided to formally announce the contest at intermission, but to have the speech printed along with the coloring pages.
- Discussed getting feather banners for Arts in the Park event and others.
- Aimee explained the procedure at the end of the night of putting away tables at the church, etc. Onica and Morgan will be in attendance every night and can be point person on this in the future.
- Morgan suggested having local restaurants' menus available at the events, Onica added that we could ask restaurants to "sponsor" a coloring sheet, provide coupons, etc. The fruit smoothie and Wing Its restaurants were potential options.

Debra needs to get access to our Facebook account.

Backyard Bash

- We reviewed the flyer for the Backyard Bash. Aimee suggested we have a tent in addition to our actual activity space. Debra confirmed. Onica discussed recruiting more featured artists from Michelle at Crackskulls. We confirmed that there will not be a contest aspect involved.
- Aimee discussed that we need a raffle item to provide, as a contributing organization who will be receiving some of the proceeds. We are also responsible for sharing any marketing.
- We discussed using the tent as sun cover for the chalk artists. Debra will put her tent in place by 1pm before event start.

Artist Among Us

- Debra explained the concept of having the “art walk” style event as well as having neighborhood locations throughout town. We would set up so artists just show up.
- Rich mentioned that the Millspace would be a participating location. Debra offered Moody Point. Boyle Field was discussed as a possibility. We need to contact Newmarket Baseball Association to see if our date would work. Beanie-Holcroft is Rec owned and may be another option.

Downtown banners

- Debra spoke to Steve about taking over control of the downtown banners. He was happy to give us a draft policy for doing this going forward. We need to present the final document to Town Council to get permission to be involved in this.
- Karen is our contact for making a schedule as well as finding out requirements for the banners.
- Bart suggested creating a Google doc to make this a living document.

Strategic planning

- Bart discussed the public art conference. Strafford Regional Planning Commission created an interactive public art and events map, A+T can come up with a list and submit 10. We should inventory our arts and cultural places, include Millspace. Aimee also suggested the garden at Schoppmeyer park.
- Discussed the calendar photography contest — can those locations also be where we put the Adirondack chairs.

Debra discussed getting the library mural fixed and/or finding alternatives.

Debra also mentioned that we should start considering 2027 anniversary events.

New business

- John discussed how Arts and Tourism and LACA’s mission statements and history dovetail.
- Onica suggested A&T members attend the next LACA meeting (second Monday of each month.)

- John also discussed the Media Makers group that meets every second Sunday. This may even be added to our inventory/map.
- Onica requested John and Val send the call for chalk artists to MillSpace members. She is aiming for 10.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 25, 7pm

Onica made a motion to adjourn at 8:47pm and Valerie seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Toukatly, Secretary