

Meeting Minutes of the Arts and Tourism Committee
December 15, 2020 (Held on ZOOM)

Chair: Nichole Jones

Attendees: Helen Sanders, Aimee Gigandet, Michael Provost, Ann Cudworth

Meeting called to order at 7:39 pm

1. Vote to accept minutes from the last meeting was postponed until the January meeting as Michael and Helen had not accessed the minutes on Goggle drive.
2. Welcome to our newest member Ann Cudworth. Approved at last Town Council meeting.
3. Tentative date for the 2021 Downtown Art Walk April 9-10-11. Subject to further discussion and vote at January meeting so that Laura and Chris can comment.
4. Annual report is due January 15th. Nichole to write up and send out to members for comments. Covers the calendar year 2020.
5. Nichole inquired about the Newmarket Main Street Corporation. Michael said that it is part of the town and not a separate entity. Nichole will get in touch with Dave Digault to talk about the wall mural project.
6. Nichole inquired as to the possibility of getting an email account for the arts & tourism committee. Aimee commented that there are limited numbers of town emails available. Helen will speak to Bill Tappin about this.
7. Discussion centered around soliciting donations. Helen commented that she had spoken with Steve Fournier and Bill Tappin and the Commission would not need to set up a separate entity but could have a separate account (trust fund) set up within the town to hold donations and pay for projects. She is waiting for further information from Bill Tappin as to specifics. Helen will report back after she receives additional information from the Town. Discussion about a separate 501c(3) organization similar to the Friends of the Library for the Arts & Tourism Commission. Filing and reporting requirements can be cumbersome and the separate entity would have a separate board from the Commission and might not always agree on what monies raised should be used for. Also could be difficult to get 5-7 more volunteers to be on board of yet another organization.
8. Newmarket Hand Tub – 3 members remaining in this organization. Michael said that is similar to other such organizations in the state. Difficult to get ongoing volunteers for organizations. People willing to give one day or work on one project but not commit long term.
9. Aimee Gigandet asked if she could be an administrator for the Commission's Facebook page so that she could more easily cross post town events. Voted 4-0 to make Aimee an administrator for the page.
10. Michael Provost – has started working on a Website on Weebly for the Commission.

Meeting adjourned 8:13

Next meeting January 19, 2021 at 7pm

Respectfully submitted
Helen Sanders