

North Kingstown Arts Council

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 Minutes

Members Present: Nancy Whyte Sherman - Chairperson, James Halley – Vice Chairperson, Eleanor Acton, Gail Shawn Burda - Recording Secretary, Francine Crete, Gerry Grabowski, Nora Hall, Robert Martone, Kathleen McCarthy, Scott Monroe, Paul Pichette, Deborah Sabo. Donna Vanderbeck

Excused Absents: NA

Un-Excused Absents: NA

Attendees: Ricky Thompson

1. **Call to order:** Nancy Whyte Sherman – Chairperson, called the Meeting to order at 7:01 pm.
2. **Pursuant to RIGL 42-46-6©** Notice of this meeting has been posted on the Secretary of State’s website.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve as written made by Gerry Grabowski, seconded by Donna Vanderbeck. Unanimous approval.
4. **Guests:** Nancy Whyte Sherman - Chairperson asked the NKAC Members to introduced themselves to our guests, with each sharing their brief bio.
 - a) Kim Page, NK Town Council Member, is interested in joining our Committee to honor those North Kingstown residents that we have lost because of Covid-19. (Committee Members: Nancy Whyte Sherman, Gail Shawn Burda, Donna Vanderbeck, Kathleen McCarthy, Debbie Sabo).
 - Donna Vanderbeck will check on Memorial Park, across from the old Town Hall and on the use of the old Town Hall property for temporary/permanent memorial.
 - b) Martha Sielman - Executive Director, *Studio Art Quilts Association*.
5. **Financial Items:** Nancy Whyte Sherman let us know that we have: \$31,529.76, \$16,483 is incumbered, \$2,000 of which is the carry-over from *Paul Baily's Dodge* \$1,500 and *Veterans of Foreign Wars* (VFW), \$500 donation for their sponsorship of last year’s Tuesday Night Concerts, at the Town Beach, which was cancelled due to COVID-19.
6. **Publicity/Website:**
 - Complimentary webinar registration: updated a link to Rocky Ruggerio’s Face book page.
 - We mentioned, to Scott Monroe NKAC member & our website manager, that we need his assistance to adjust our website to accommodate *ArtVenture* registrations, found art pieces, etc.
7. **Projects Proposals:**
 - a) History of the Art Quilt Movement in America - #80388 Liaison: Robert Martone
 - Martha Sielman will share the history through slides and a lecture.

- This International Association began in the 60s and is creating unexpected art using fabric and thread. They are sharing the Art Quilt movement of “getting the quilt off the bed and onto the wall”.
- Creating three-dimensional quilt art is trending, and plans for a collaborative between Quilters and Basket Weavers, to share gallery space, is in the works. Their Art Quilt Newsletter - SAQA, is a quarterly publication
- **Date of Event:** March 11, 2021 5:30-6:30 pm. Anticipated Audience Size: 50

Motion to approve proposal request of \$300, made by James Halley, seconded by Gerry Grabowski. Unanimous approval.

- b) Drink and Draw “Tessellations” Distance Program - #80389 - Liaison: Robert Martone, contact: Bonnie Epstein.
- Participants will be introduced to the work of M. C. Escher and the mathematical art of tessellations. The object is to provide an engaging, creative, meditative and relaxing respite with this hands-on experience.
 - All needed art supplies will be delivered to you, so they are ready to work with the presenting Educator.
 - The Rhode Island Museum of Science & Art will post this class in their e-mail newsletter reaching 400 participants, as well as their social media, reaching 2,000 individuals.
 - **Date of Event:** April 8, 2021 6-7 pm. Anticipated Audience Size: 15

Motion to approve proposal request of \$170, made by James Halley, seconded by Deborah Sabo. Unanimous approval.

- c) “Stables and Mobiles” Family Distance Program - #80390 - Liaison: Robert Martone, contact: Bonnie Epstein
- Meet online to learn, very briefly, about the work of Alexander Calder – inventor of the mobile, then onto making your own family mobiles and stables. All supplies will be delivered to you.
 - **Date of Event:** April 17, 2021 10 – 11 am. Anticipated Audience Size: 30

Motion to approve proposal request of \$220, made by James Halley, seconded by Donna Vanderbeck. Unanimous approval.

- d) *ArtVenture* 2021 - #80387 – Chelsey said she’d be IT person for us. Liaison:
- Nancy was wondering, since our *ArtVenture* offering coordinated with the Governor’s “Take It Outside” and NK’s “Rediscover NK”, perhaps there was some grant money to tap into, but Jim Halley said we couldn’t because the money had to do with businesses offering outdoor eating, or something else outdoors to help with keeping one’s business open.
 - We can offer up to \$25 per art piece, so we estimate around 136 art pieces to be hidden.
 - We are hoping to have visitors from throughout the State become more aware of all North Kingstown has to offer.
 - **Date of Event:** May 8 – 23, 2021 all day each day.

Motion to approve proposal request of \$4,000, made by James Halley, seconded by Gerry Grabowski. Unanimous approval

8. **Final Funding Forms:** None

9. Old Business:

- a) Artistically Speaking Committee Updates: Nora would like feedback about Rocky Ruggerio's February 11, 2021 presentation on *Zoom*: what we liked and didn't like.
- b) Discussion of support for our website management of reservations for events.
 - Scott Monroe will be creating a data base when we have e-mails from registrations and has created an e-mail for the Arts Council, nkartscouncil@gmail.com, where registration could go and he will manage it, though when asked if he has the time, Scott said for now yes. Should that change, it was mentioned that we may have to pay someone to manage the e-mails.
- c) "Now That's Funny!" starring Bob Colonna and friends, filming a *Zoom* presentation. NKAC Member, Kathleen McCarthy, let us know that Bob will be 80 yrs. old next week, so they have put a hold on the presentation, due to COVID-19, while the cast awaits vaccinations.

10. New Business:

- Southeast New England Film, Music and Arts
 - a) Kathleen McCarthy has been in contact with the Screen Play Director. Kathleen would NK to have a chance to hold the awards presentation for the film group mentioned above. She lost one venture and is looking for suggestions: the Quonset "O" Club was mentioned and NK High School auditorium. One problem is some of the schools aren't opening their auditoriums to the public because of Covid-19, but since it is planned for June, perhaps school will be over.

The company will have no problem covering the cost of sanitizing the rooms to be used.
 - b) They will check on the cost to rent the facilities.

11. Correspondence:

- Nancy Rafi on the Wickford Snowflake Parade/Festival – #80386 Liaison: Nancy Whyte Sherman
 - a) Julie Beebe told Nancy Rafi that the merchants don't need any more activity in the Village during December. She did suggest that perhaps in January/February when it is quieter. Nancy Rafi feels that it is too cold and the weather is unpredictable for people to be outdoors, in those months.
 - b) Gail Shawn Burda mentioned in her January minutes a liaison for the Snowflake Parade was needed, so Nancy Whyte Sherman volunteered.
 - c) Nancy Rafi said that she has been talking with the Christmas in Newport people and they seem very interested in adding the Snowflake Parade to their Saturday after Thanksgiving official tree lighting ceremony. Gail Shawn Burda said that with all the merchants have gone through: the bridge work, new sidewalks, sewer installations, they have kept a positive attitude and have come up with innovated ideas to keep the Village a viable destination, but could certainly use the income that would be generated from those attending the parade & festival.
 - d) Lindsay Dias of Creative Dramatics program let Chairperson, Nancy Whyte Sherman know that her program has been put on hold due to Covid-19. Schools are not renting their auditoriums and students can't practice during the pandemic.
 - The \$1,450 in received revenue for student registrations for the Drama class, was refunded or student's families were provided with household credit to use for the postponed classes.
 - Lindsay received the spent monies she paid: \$868.50 to the Music Thtre International Drama and \$500 to the RI Youth Theatre, which was expended for 2020 Show, now probably the 2022 drama production.

12. Adjournment: Nancy Whyte Sherman - Chairperson called for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion made at 8:37 pm by Gerry Grabowski, seconded by Debbie Sabo. Unanimous approval.

The Next Scheduled NKAC Zoom Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gail Shawn Burda

Recording Secretary