

## North Kingstown Arts Council

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 Minutes

**Members Present:** Nancy Whyte Sherman - Chairperson, James Halley – Vice Chairperson, Eleanor Acton, Gail Shawn Burda - Recording Secretary, Fran Crete, Gerry Grabowski, Nora Hall, Kathleen McCarthy, Robert Martone, Donna Vanderbeck.

**Excused Absents:** Scott Monroe, Deborah Sabo

**Un-Excused Absents:** NA

**Attendees:** Ricky Thompson - our North Kingstown resident attendee, let Nancy know that he could not attend.

**Zoom meeting** hosted by Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs, Recreation Director

1. **Call to order:** Nancy Whyte Sherman – Chairperson, called the Meeting to order at 7:04 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 May 12, 2021 Minutes, as written, made by Nora Hall, seconded by Donna Vanderbeck.
  - Unanimous approval.
4. **Guests:**
  - a) **Nick Benjamin** – did not attend.
    - Nancy Whyte Sherman met this high school student and his father and while talking to the son he mentioned that he works on websites. Nick seemed interested in doing work for the Arts Council, with website updates.
    - Nancy Whyte Sherman has ordered more NK Arts Council business cards for newer Members and more North Kingstown Arts Council sticky logo labels.
5. **Financial Items:**
  - We have Patrick Malone, our website developer, on retainer and paid him \$250 to update our *ArtVenture* website page, making artists' bio and their artwork available on its page. We have \$490 of allotted money left for web Design. (thanks to Gail's brother we have \$676 still allocated for Sponsorship, because he had our Arts Council pamphlet designed and some printed, old logo updated & printed some, NKAC letterhead and sponsorship information sheets printed and gave us some folders for sponsorship packets for the Arts Council, gratis.)

- Motion to accept the Financial Report made by Gerry Grabowski, seconded by James Halley.
- Unanimous accepted.

## 6. Publicity/Website: Scott Monroe not present tonight

### a) Change in final proposal

- Nancy Whyte Sherman agreed with the two additions to the Final Funding form consisting of: one stipulating that all donations collected on behalf of the Arts Council be delivered to the Recreation Department within a 48 - hour period and secondly that the Council be provided a recent digital event photo, for promotional purposes, by those requesting funding for an event.
- We need to make sure that the projects we fund, show our logo on all their publicity pieces.

### b) Submitting photos

- Gail Shawn Burda asked how the QR code was working, for people using their phones to click a photo and send it to our website, if they found an art piece from *ArtVenture*. Nancy said that it wasn't easy and she had some problems using the device. It was supposed to go to our new e-mail address, but that wasn't always the case.
- Nancy Whyte Sherman and Nora Hall talked about needing the website to be easier to navigate, Nora didn't feel that we should have to click three times to get to places.
- Julie Kennedy wants to develop a web page to highlight the webs and journals people added to during *ArtVenture*, such as lovely poems, comments, sayings that were so inspirational.

## 7. Project Proposals:

### a) West Bay Community Theatre – Shakespeare in the Spirit - #80398. Liaison Kathleen McCarthy, Project Coordinator – Terry Shea

- The requested funds of \$3,000, in light of us receiving only \$4,000 from the Town next month, made Gail Shawn Burda uncomfortable allotting so much to one project, other Committee Members agreed. The cost of \$1,500 for artist fees was fine, but Gail questioned covering the cost of: Rental fees, Production equipment, Security/Traffic NKPD, Social media boosts & A/V expenses. James Halley came up with giving them \$2,100 and was asked why that number. He said \$300 for Costumes/props and \$300 for Poster design/printing in light of their artistic value.
- It was mentioned that there was no passing of a donation bucket, to benefit the Arts Council, at Terry Shea's last event. (On the Project Proposal form there is a list of what is expected of those asking for the Arts Council funding: collecting donations for the Arts Council is one and acknowledging us on the publicity put out for people's events, is another requirement).

- Also mentioned was that this event was already published on websites, before it was even an Arts Council agenda item. People need to have their requests to us much earlier.
  - Motion to approve the adjusted sum of \$2,100, instead of the sum of \$3,000 originally requested, made by James Halley, seconded by Gerry Grabowski.
  - Unanimous approval.
- b) **Artistically Speaking – Impact of Social Media on Photography - #8039 Liaison: Eleanor Acton, Project Coordinator – Cindy Wilson**
- Unfortunately, only three people logged into this presentation, which sparked the comment that the presenter should have talked up their presentation on their own social media form. This presenter is well known in Town and offers several indoor and outdoor series of classes each year, giving her potentially quite a few people to notify.
  - This was a free virtual presentation. The Final Funding report (which was not on our Final Funding form), recommended increased publicity on website and other outlets needed.
  - Those that viewed the presentation thought that it was excellent.
  - Motion to release payment of \$250 to photographer Cindy Wilson made by Robert Martone, seconded by Gerry Grabowski.
  - Unanimous approval.

## 8. Final Funding Forms:

- a) **ArtVenture - #80387 - Liaison: NK Arts Council - Project Coordinator - Nancy Whyte Sherman**
- Trail walkers seemed quite pleased with *ArtVenture*: the opportunity to find free, lovely art and becoming acquainted with all the trails in Town.
  - Nancy Whyte Sherman, Chairperson came across a woman who had just picked up the matted print of the Wickford's Avis building area by Gail Shawn Burda, when Nancy found out the lady hadn't posted a photo of her find, Nancy took her photo and will post it to our website.
  - This woman walks the same route every day with friends and when they heard about *ArtVenture* walked a different NK trail each day, instead of their old route and were pleased to discover new walking areas.
  - Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs, Recreation Director let us know that there are several pieces of *ArtVenture* art in her office, which have not been claimed. July 3, 2021 will be the final day to claim the pieces. Nancy Whyte Sherman said she'd get a committee together to determine what to do with the art pieces that don't get claimed.
  - Nancy also mentioned that some people found more than one piece of art and one person claimed four pieces. Should *ArtVenture* ever be offered again (It is a costly and time-consuming project), people may find an art piece and if

they find another one, they could take it, but should leave the previous find in its place.

- Motion to release payment of \$2,879.31 for *ArtVenture* made by James Halley, seconded by Gerry Grabowski.
- Unanimous approval.

#### 9. Old Business:

- June 16, 2021 is the judging date for the art work to go on the Town Beach Marker, which the NK Water Department has mostly funded. Adult art being judged by Wickford Art Association people and the children's project entitled: Kids Care About Nature and Art, being judged by NK Art Teachers. Arts Council will pay for *Wickford Art Association* artists' costs.

#### 10. New Business:

##### a) Need volunteers for Tuesday Night Concerts

- Two people to put up Tee signs at the corner of Beach & Boston Neck Roads and the NK High School parking lot, to let people know about the free shuttle service when the Town Beach parking lots get full. People riding the shuttle may drop their chairs and coolers off at the beach and retrieve them upon departing the shuttle.
- James Halley also needs two people from 6 to 8 pm to pass the buckets, to collect donations (one gentleman likes to collect, so if he comes this season only one other person will be needed).
- The same lady will be driving the shuttle and two students will be helping where needed, as they did in 2019, so there is money in place to pay all three.
- Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs let us know that there needs to be a rain date for the concerts, since they cannot shift the concerts to the NK High School Auditorium should it rain, as in previous years. Nancy Whyte Sherman said that the performers were aware of the conditions and agreed to a rain date. The rain dates are listed on all posters/media.
- Our previous *Tuesday Night Concerts* organizer offered to help, but Jim is having a difficult time getting in touch with him.

##### b) David Hayes sculpture garden in collaboration with HistWick

- Mike Donahue (HistWick president), knows the sculptor - David Hayes. Nancy Whyte Sherman mentioned that she and Mike were going to look at some of David's sculptures and maybe do an installation at the old town meeting house grounds. It's total speculation at this point. They thought it might be a possible collaborative venture between the two organizations.

#### 11. Correspondence:

**a) Letter from Slocum Grange #36**

- A donation and note arrived from *Slocum Grange #36* to be a sponsor for the Covid Memorial Park and they especially would like to honor Dorothy Glover and Grace Dickens, enclosing a check in the amount of \$60.00. The Secretary is Linda Sullivan, from North Kingstown, the Grange is located at 63 Courtland Drive in Narragansett, RI 02882.

**12. Adjournment:** Nancy Whyte Sherman, Chairperson called for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion to adjourn at 8:13 pm made by James Halley, seconded by Eleanor Acton.

- Unanimous approval.

**The Next Scheduled Zoom Meeting will be on July 14, 2021**

Respectfully submitted by,

Gail Shawn Burda

Recording Secretary