



Town of Strafford Arts & Events Council – A Master Plan Subcommittee

Mission: *Enrich community connections by expanding local arts and culture through community events, activities, and programs for residents of all ages.*

MEETING: ARTS & EVENTS COUNCIL- A SUBCOMMITTEE of the TOWN OF STRAFFORD PLANNING BOARD

MEETING DATE: April 18, 2024, 3:00-4:00pm (Meeting Three)

MEETING PLACE: Hill Library

COMMITTEE:

Chair: Susan Ryan (603-321-0163 = cell phone or text) (SuzRyan1@Gmail.com)

Committee Members Present: Daniel Dupee (Bowlakerentals@yahoo.com), Kaitlin Whitcher LaBreck (Kaitlin@ProfoundRealEstate.com), Pamela Boyer (Boyerpamela633@gmail.com)

Absent : Risa Winter Ceskavich (Rceskavich@Gmail.com), Kelly Kilgallon (Kelly@Taphousemedia.com),

Event or Ideas Volunteers not in attendance but copied for agenda and minutes: Cristyn Black (CristynBlack@gmail.com), Cindy Lavigne (thevine57@yahoo.com)

Copy to Town Clerk: Terri Marsh (townclerk@strafford.nh.gov)

MINUTES

3:05 Called Meeting to order

Voted to approve meeting minutes from 2/15- Kaitlin moved to approve and Daniel seconded. 3/21 meeting minutes Kaitlin moved to approve and Daniel seconded. New Council Member Pam Boyer introduced. Pam is member of the Garden Club, Womens Club and long time community member with many connections.

Committee members reported out on contact updates based on assignments distributed in the 1/25, 2/15 and 3/21 meetings.

Risa contacts- Garden Club, Historical Society, Schools in town as well as Coe Brown?) will be deferred to next meeting.

Kaitlin contacts- BNI for other towns- turns out to not be particularly useful.

Susan contacts- Bob Bennett Garden Club update is due in May but Pam can provide that in the next meeting.

Community Center/Grange would like to collaborate on an event (i.e. Spaghetti dinner etc.) so we'll keep connected with Sue Higgins to see if that can be arranged. Submitted Community Calendar article, as emailed to Council prior to this meeting, for May edition to lure out artists etc. and also posted on town FB page. No responses to either yet.

Updated Events Calendar with School events from March meeting and April Community Calendar articles with events listed. Attached to this agenda was the list of the rest of the Master Plan Implementation Committees and contacts.

Events Insurance info needed via Ellen White at Town Hall: Susan will email Ellen asking about how it works for events this Council would hold either on public or private land and how we would go about requesting the use of public lands like the Dam and surrounding areas. Non Profits can buy insurance for around \$500 a year but we are an offshoot of the Town Planning Committee and not a 501©3, so need the towns advice.

Daniel contacts-Daniels daughter is a successful artist online and is willing to teach a session to local artists on how to use social media to sell their works. He will write up a note to promote the class for posting on FB and in the Community Calendar. Not certain we'll draw anyone out for it but it's a means to do so.

Events and Ideas Review for 2024 with a goal to devise interesting and fun events or activities that would complement what's already going on. Susan added possible seasons as requested. We intend to compare to Town event calendar and don't spread ourselves too thin. See lists attached as an FYI. Discussed where to focus our energy in 2024.

Two ideas took hold from the list and they were 1) Community Cookbook and 2) Music on the Lake.

For the Cookbook we would have a local artist do the cover art and solicit recipes through the Councils connections and by using Arts&Events Council Business Cards that we'll place around town and hand out. We'd seek to have the cookbook sold during Christmas in Strafford to offset costs. The cards provide another avenue to publicize the Council and engage the community. We are aware that other groups have done this in the past. Kaitlin will procure the cards and knows someone who would do a simple logo for the Council. We'll discuss more about how to get a local artist for cover art work at a future meeting but we could use FB and the Community Calendar to advertise the need for it to see who comes forward. Pam offered to get insight into costs from one of her clubs who have considered doing this in the past.

For Music on the Lake- we discussed holding it on Saturday July 6 with a rain date of July 20 to possibly coincide with the Boat Parade. We'd offer music at various lakeside homes around the lake for hour long sets timed throughout the day and early evening. May be a two day event but all is based on willing bands who'll donate time as well as homeowners willing to offer their properties. This can also be a fundraiser for the Council through raffles. Possible acts to perform will be contacted by Susan and the Council will think about property sites but several are possible. Names for the event were tossed around like Music on the Lake and BowLakeAPalooza and we'll finalize a name in the coming meetings.

No New Business was raised and Kaitline moved we adjourn at 4:00.

FOR REFERENCE:

EVENT and ACTIVITIES IDEAS FOR CONSIDERATION & Community Events Calendar on the following 3 pages



Town of Strafford Arts & Events Council – A Master Plan Subcommittee

Mission: Enrich community connections by expanding local arts and culture through community events, activities, and programs for residents of all ages.

	<u>Arts & Events Ideas</u>	<u>Season</u>
1	Air National Guard Helicopter Display Day (Rochester did this) Touch a truck too?	Spring/Summer/Fall
2	Bingo and Beers night	Year round
3	Cardboard Boat Races	Summer
4	Children based events	Year round
5	Christmas Tree Decorating Contest (donate after to less fortunate?)	Winter
6	Coffeehouse for music, poetry/spoken word, storytelling etc. (possibly themed)	Year round
7	Community Cookbook	Year round
8	Concerts	Summer/Fall
9	Public Murals display, Arts&Events Council logo contest, Public Arts displays in	Year round
10	Cooking Classes- vary culture and types of courses	Fall/Winter/Spring
11	Cultural Food Day	Fall/Winter/Spring
12	Dating Game Show- Dinner Date nights	Fall/Winter/Spring
13	Family Fun Days	Spring/Summer/Fall
14	Family Treasure Hunts	Spring/Summer/Fall
15	Farmers Market with music and art displays/sales	Summer/Fall
16	Flea Market	Summer/Fall
17	Holiday Lights Competition	Winter
18	Ice Hockey Tournament	Winter
19	Ice Sculpture Display/Competition	Winter
20	Karaoke Idol Contest	Fall/Winter/Spring
21	Local Arts, Crafts, Hobby & Music Show with Food trucks	Spring/Summer/Fall
22	Meet your Neighbor's dinner-Dinner for 4 (couples teamed w/ those don't know)	Fall/Winter/Spring
23	Music on the Lake	Summer
24	Pet Parade and Beauty Contest	Summer
25	Pie Baking, Pizza or other food contests	Year round
26	Road Clean-up day	Summer
27	Senior based events	Year round
28	Social Media training for Artist sales	Year round
29	Sports competition based events-three-legged races, most basketball shots, etc.	Summer
30	Skateboarding shows	Summer
31	Strafford Book of Town Records gathering- i.e. Tallest person, longest beard, oldest truck	Spring/Summer/Fall
32	Vendor Fair	Year round
33	Who's Got Talent Show	Year round

Strafford Town Wide Events Calendar as of April meeting

DATE 2024	EVENT	OFFERED BY
March 23	Easter Bunny	BLCC/Grange
March	Drama Performance	School
April	Spring Music Concert	School
April	Arts Week (type of art showcased is changed up each year. One year we had artist in residence that she recycled art, last year was performance art so different groups in all week. This year is a sculpture theme)	School
April 20	Coffee House at Foss Hall of the Christian Education Building. Music, Poetry etc	Third Baptist Church
May	Father Daughter Dance	Strafford Rec
May 25	Annual Plant Sale	Garden Club
May 27	Memorial Day Parade, Food and Ceremony	Town, BLCC, SWC
May/June	K-5 Family Dance	School PTO
June 1	Bow Lake Road Race	?Sponsor
June	Graduation (June for 8th grade and Little Spartans Preschool)	School
June	Field Day	School
June 9	Childrens Day with Family Concert	Third Baptist Church
June 29	Pancake Breakfast	Fire Dept
June 29	Steak Tip Drive Thru	Bow Lake Baptist Church
July 3	Food Truck Fest, Fireworks	Town and BLCC
July 4	Day at the Dam	BLCOA
July 13	Chicken BBQ	BLCOA
July TBD	Ice Cream Social, Summer Raffle	SWC @ Waldron Store
July 27	Blueberry Festival at Waldron Store with live Music	Town Democrats
August 10	Lobster Cookout	BLCOA
August TBD	Bake Sale	SWC
August	Popsicles on the Playground for incoming kindergarteners	School PTO
August 31	COGO Golf Tournament	BLCOA at Nippo Lake CC
September 1	Ducks over the Dam, Food and Family games	BLCC/Grange
September 1	Loon Aid Benefit Concert on the Lake	Island Mike and Friends (Isla Saunders Benefit)
September	Open House	School
September 27	Firemen's Golf Tournament	Fire Dept
Fall TBD	Ice Cream Social	SWC
October 12	Chili Chowder Cook off	BLCC/Grange
October 30	Haunted House Trick or Treat	BLCC/Grange
October	Trunk or Treat	School PTO
November	Veteran's Day Assembly	School
December 1	Tree Lighting with Santa	BLCC/Grange
December 7-8	Christmas in Strafford, BakeSale	BLCC/Grange, SWC
December	Holiday Craft Fair	School
December	Holiday Shop for Kids	School PTO
January- December	Private Events and public fundraisers	BLCC/Grange



Town of Strafford Arts & Events Council – A Master Plan Subcommittee

Mission: *Enrich community connections by expanding local arts and culture through community events, activities, and programs for residents of all ages.*

Not in Calendar:

- Middle School Dances (Various months)
- Other various School assemblies (change annually, such as bullying, science themed, TIGER show, etc)
- Fire Safety Presentation at School (October)
- School sporting events- various games, clinics
- Strafford Rec Sport Clinics
- Strafford Rec Adult Sports
- Strafford Rec Mother/Son Fun Night (date varies)
- Strafford Rec Cupcake Challenge (no date provided)
- Town Democrats and Republicans events through the year
- Line Dancing Classes at Grange Fall/Spring/Summer and Church in winter
- Member of the Year and a Strafford Citizen of the Year awarded by Garden Club in March
- Library event calendar is very robust and varied and is not incorporated here. Offerings range from poetry round tables, mahjong, game nights, senior safety classes, knitting/spinners/fiber arts groups, cookbook club, historical events, chair yoga, music and movement class, support meetings, to children's programs galore.