



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: May 13, 2024, 5:00-6:00pm (Meeting Four)

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), Cindy Lavigne (thevine57@yahoo.com)

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

Copy to Volunteer Cristyn Black (CristynBlack@gmail.com),

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

Minutes

Called Meeting to order at 5:00pm. This meeting date was changed for members scheduling from Thursday May 16.

Vote to approve meeting minutes from 4/18 meeting was moved by Kaitlin and seconded by Daniel. All approved.

Committee members reported out on assignments distributed in prior meetings. Risa was not present and Susan will reach out to her to inquire as to if she is still interested in participating in the Council. She was to contact the Historical Society so Susan will take that on.

Susan contacted Ellen White at Town Hall asking about how insurance works for events this Council would hold either on public or private land, how we would go about requesting the use of public lands like the Dam and surrounding areas and how to bank any money we raise (we are not a 501c3). The following was Ellen Whites reply:

“Our Planning Committee Contacts are Charlie Moreno at cmforestry@metrocast.net and/or Phil Auger at augerlandhelp@gmail.com. Use of Beach Area: Although the town does mow, maintain and provide porta-potties for the beach area, the use of the beach area is under the authority of the State at this time. I would suggest that you contact Corey Clarke at NHDES via email at corey.clarke@des.nh.gov and consign a copy to the Town at administrator@strafford.nh.gov. To request the use of Town properties that are conservation lands, you would have to request permission from the Conservation Commission. Insurance: As a subcommittee for the Town, I believe that a function would generally fall under the Town’s liability insurance, providing the type of function was approved by our insurance carrier. We will provide the information to our insurance carrier and verify coverage. Fundraising: When the time comes to begin your fundraising endeavors, under NH RSA 31:19, which has been adopted by the Town, the Town would be able to accept funds raised through fundraising for a specific purpose. My understanding is that the funds could be accepted by a vote of the Board of Selectmen at a regular meeting. I am waiting on clarification from the State on the necessary wording to be used to designate the funds to be used for a particular

purpose, and not be placed in the general fund where other revenues are placed. Although there is a process that can be used to accept funds from fundraisers in the future, there are several clarifications needed prior to any fundraisers, acceptance of funds, how specific the use/purpose of the fund must be defined, requirements for the care and custody of the funds and who would have the authority to authorize the expenditures. I do not believe that the Arts & Events Council has any authority for expenditures as a subcommittee of the Master Plan. Please verify with Charlie Moreno and/or Phil Auger, but my understanding is that your charge as a subcommittee of the Master Plan is to bring forward ideas of what you would like see as a consideration in association with future development and growth within the Town. General Planning: You should speak with the Selectmen well in advance of holding the event/fundraiser and provide information on the date, type of event and location." Council agreed this was excellent information and Susan will make some inquiries at the upcoming Planning Committee scheduled for Tuesday May 21 at 6:30. This council and any community members are invited to attend that special meeting devoted to report updates from the Master Plan Committee Chairs.

Pam researched Cookbook costs and as an example went to Staples to find that a double sided 8x10 25-page spiral bound booklet would cost approximately \$510 for 25 copies. The council agreed this may be too costly to recoup and discussed that while it was an heirloom type offering, that most people use online recipes these days. We discussed putting together gift baskets to raffle at Christmas in Strafford or buying or getting donations of items like music tickets to raffle off. We will discuss this further at the next meeting and with clarification on the ability to raise funds for this Councils specific use in supporting activities and events.

Susan provided an Update on BowLakeAPoluzza- Saturday July 6: Four bands have agreed to participate for free this year- Miner & Ryan Musicians, Second Wind, Barry Schraufnagal, and Tritter & Darla. We have one location so far at the Dupee Residence in Skiers Cove. Susan will inquire about the use of the Dam Beach, also Steve Davidovitchs peninsula and Kaitilin will inquire about use of Whitcher Point (Mike And Marcys home) and Mark and Judys dock. The council agreed it would be nice to have a few more acts and members stated they'd think about others (Cecil Ables was mentioned) who might be available and who'd do it for free. Updates will be exchanged via email to the council.

The event was posted in Com Calendar for June and we will need more specifics for July edition along with FB. We can put up a few Posters and and discussed using signage to promote the event but until we know more about our ability to use funds we may table that. (Shine only-no rain date). The idea would be to have paddle boarder volunteers going to boats to sell Raffel tix and prizes to raise money for Council. Again the event is accessed by water only, not by land, unless we get use of the beach for an act located there.

Daniel provided an update on Artist Training Session for local artists on how to use social media to sell their works. His daughter is experienced and willing to hold the session in August. Kaitlin volunteered the use of her office and Dan and she will determine a final date- perhaps a weeknight from 5-7:00. The event will get into the Community Calendar and FB and will require RSVP to hold a seat as seating will be limited to 10-12 people.

Kaitlin updated on logo for council biz cards or posters etc., and we reviewed several excellent submissions from Jaqueline Stevens who did the work for free. Ideas were exchanged and two finalists with some changes will be brought back to Jacqueline and then back to the Council by Kaitlin.

The council agreed to adding a meeting in June on Thursday June 6 at 3:00 at the Hill Library to spend more planning time on the BowLakeAPalooza. This will be in addition to the **monthly meeting which will still occur on Thursday June 20.**

Meeting Adjourned at 6:07