

S T R A F F O R D

Arts Events COUNCIL

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 SUBCOMITTEE of the TOWN OF STRAFFORD PLANNING BOARD

MEETING DATE: January 16, 2025 (cancelled December 19, 2024 meeting so used that meeting agenda) 3:00-4:00pm

MEETING PLACE: Hill Library

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

Cindy Lavigne (thevine57@yahoo.com), Pamela Boyer (Boyerpamela633@gmail.com), Kaitlin Whitcher LaBreck (Kaitlin@ProfoundRealEstate.com), Daniel Dupee (Bowlakerentals@yahoo.com) joined by phone)

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

Minutes

Called Meeting to Order at 3:05. Cindy moved to Approve minutes from 11/21 (no December meeting) and seconded by Pam.

Updates from Council members on follow up work assigned in 11/21 meeting included Susan noting we will not pursue Historical Society (contact Phil Shiere) or the Bow Lake Community center (Grange) regarding their fiscal agent oversight. Cindy made a contact with the Barrington Chamber of Commerce and Susan talked with Derek Small on Tuesday 12/17 . They plan to create a county wide Events 501c3. They plan to meet in late January and discuss our proposal to work with them as out fiscal agent. More to come after they meet as to if they want to meet with us and next steps. Seems promising.

Neither Cindy nor Pam had any updates on Christmas in Strafford contact about fiscal agent role. Phil Auger on the Planning Committee confirmed we are a volunteer group with no official association with the town and must pursue our own 501c3 or use a fiscal agent to obtain, bank and distribute funds and acquire liability insurance for events.

Pam found out the Warrant article process for funding is highly competitive and the council discussed putting off any action to pursue this avenue until we had a strong case for funding that the town might get behind.

Council Reviewed list of events we want to undertake for 2025 or 2026. We will seek out one more act for BowLakeAPolooza Saturday July 26, 2025. Cindy suggested a teen act from town and will provide Susan with contact details to do some follow-up. Kaitlin will research swag like koozies that we could get donations for so we could pay performers.

Olde Home Day in the Fall 2026- Cindy compiled an excellent and detailed potential itinerary and site map that we might consider for Strafford Olde Home Day for review by the council and everyone was excited by the potential, agreeing a 2026 date would be best. She scouted Kitz Farm which has a barn, electricity, bathrooms etc and liability insurance. Pam and Susan will visit the site with Cindy again on Monday 1/20 but it seems like a good option. Cindy also brought up the potential for a Youth Boat Parade. The Council decided we'd focus on 2 events for now- BowLakeAPaluzza and Olde Home Day. No New Business and Meeting Adjourned at 3:52. Next Meeting is 3:00 on Thursday February 20, 2025.