

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: February 20, 2025 3:00-4:00pm

MEETING PLACE: Hill Library

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

Cindy Lavigne (thevine57@yahoo.com), Kaitlin Whitcher LaBreck (Kaitlin@ProfoundRealEstate.com), Daniel

Dupee (<u>Bowlakerentals@yahoo.com</u>) joined by phone). **Excused:** Pamela Boyer (Boyerpamela633@gmail.com),

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

Minutes

Called Meeting to Order at 3:00. Approved minutes from 1/16/25 with a motion to accept from Kaitlin seconded by Cindy.

- Susan reported she has been in contact with Derek Small from the Barrington Chamber of Commerce and next steps with their newly forming committee on Arts and Event has yet to set up their meeting for 2025. She will continue to follow up and stay in touch.
- Update on BowLakeAPalooza Saturday July 26, 2025 included that the Teen act from town was not currently suitable for this event. Susan confirmed 3 acts and awaiting work from Island Mike. Susan will reach out to John McCuchin and Kaitlin will reach out to Cecil Abels too.
- For fundraising ideas Kaitlins research on swag like koozies (that we could get donations for so we could pay performers) and beach balls looked really promising. We discussed selling drinks and koozies with our logo on them and this council agreed we'd underwrite the cost of those. For beach balls, perhaps underwritten by 7Cs and with their logo as well as BowLakeAPaloo
- za printed on them, Kaitlin will contact Sara. Kaitlin also offered to talk to Peter at Ami about the signage updates we need for the sandwich boards. We will devote a future meeting to final planning as the date draws closer.
- Olde Home Day Planning for Fall 2026 occupied a good deal of meeting time. Based on Cindys excellent and detailed potential itinerary and using Kitz Farm as the site, Cindy offered to take a stab at reconfiguring the way the site might be set up and what activities we might offer to attract people and keep them at the event. Many ideas were discussed and at the next meeting we begin to nail down the events. How to offset the cost of the venue, \$1500, was also discussed related to booth rental fees and donation from those attending, along with raffles and Town Trivia contests that people buy into. Showing the history montage in the barn on a loop was also supported along with potential for live music and rather than food trucks, seeing if town groups like the womans club would want to sell food. A historical costume contest was discussed too, along with a small petting "zoo".

Cindy will reach out to George Kitz to firm up a date and then we can reach out to town groups about interest and begin planning in earnest.

At the Town Planning Committee Update meeting on 2/18 Susan reported out the progress being made with Olde Home Day and the other chairs were excited and very interested in learning more about how they can help and participate-especially the Agriculture and Recreation Groups, who could be a huge help with the event.

No New Business. Next Meeting is 3:00 on Thursday March 20, 2025.