

## 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: Town Planning Committee: Progress Reports by Master Plan Implementation Sub Committees

MEETING DATE: October 14, 2025 6:30pm

**MEETING PLACE:** Town Hall

COMMITTEE: ARTS & EVENTS COUNCIL- A SUBCOMITTEE of the TOWN OF STRAFFORD PLANNING BOARD

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

Committee Members: Kaitlin Whitcher LaBreck (Kaitlin@ProfoundRealEstate.com), Daniel Dupee

(Bowlakerentals@yahoo.com), Cindy Lavigne (Thevine57@yahoo.com), Betsy Schaefer

(BetsyMac59@gmail.com)

## **UPDATE #6**

- A. **Meetings** are still held monthly since 2/1/24 at the Hill Library on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 3:00pm unless otherwise updated. Full attendance by all Council members has allowed us to be very productive.
- B. On Saturday July 26 we held the second annual "BowLawAPalooza" as a day of free music on the lake accessible by water craft and the town beach for some of the program. We had four acts who volunteered to play beginning at 12:30, each act playing for 1 hour, hosted at two waterfront properties on the Strafford side of the Lake along Water Street. Once again, musicians volunteered to do the event for free-something we endeavor to <u>not</u> have to do again next year. Feedback was excellent and we plan to hold the event again.
- C. We have begun a series of interviews to publish in the Community Calendar to showcase Strafford based artists and their stories.
- D. As we need to raise funds to underwrite future activities or events, purchase business cards/posters etc. raffle items etc.. We are now in talks with The Strafford Recreational Sports 501c3 about partnering with them as a **fiscal agent and for insurance** purposes. Gaining a partner is key to our being able to continue our work.
- E. As reported previously, The Council is focused on organizing a <u>Strafford Olde Home Day</u> on <u>August 22, 2026</u> with a rain date of August 23, 2026. Kitz Farm will be the site and they are discounting the cost to help underwrite the event but significant funds must be secured to host the event. Much initial effort has gone into planning how the day might look and the Council continues actively reaching out to many others to explain the premise and gain interest in their participation. Kitz Farm has offered to host a meeting for all interested on a date to be determined. Many Volunteers and vendors are needed to make the event a success but response has been lukewarm to postings on FB and in the Community Calendar. We hope interest increases so we can feel confident about moving ahead with this event.