

# 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:** Thursday April 16, 2026 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](mailto:thevine57@yahoo.com)), [Betsy](mailto:BetsyMac59@gmail.com) Schaefer (BetsyMac59@gmail.com), Ken Berry

([KenBerry267@gmail.com](mailto:KenBerry267@gmail.com)), Elaine Leker ([Elaineleker55@gmail.com](mailto:Elaineleker55@gmail.com)), Daniel Dupee ([Bowlakerentals@yahoo.com](mailto:Bowlakerentals@yahoo.com))

**Copy to Town Clerk:** Terri Marsh ([townclerk@strafford.nh.gov](mailto:townclerk@strafford.nh.gov))

### Minutes

- Called Meeting to Order at 3:05 and Cindy moved to Approve minutes from 3/26/26, seconded by Betsy
- Continued planning BowLakeAPolooza Saturday July 25, 2026. 1 Act still needed or perhaps we ask each of the other 3 to extend their sets by 15 minutes? Ken must still reach out to The Home Folks to find out if they are interested.  
Marketing will consist of flyers around town, Community Calendar, FB (All three provided/done by Susan at May and June meetings) and sandwich boards. (Susan) Will follow up with Kaitlin to see if she has the sandwich board posters for us to update. We'll see if we can borrow sandwich boards from Garden club (Betsy/Elaine) or Historical Society (Ken).
- Discussed Fiscal agent options, event insurance and next steps. Elaine will follow-up with husband about the Garden Club since they are a 501c3 and maybe the Womens Club would also like to do it (Betsy or Elaine can ask?). (Elaine) Will also ask husband about how Garden Club obtains insurance for each event.
- Discussed *Winter or Fall Festival 2027* ideas and follow up from last meeting.  
One idea- Winter Fishing Derby add ons- Cindy will talk to Fish and Game neighbor about doing exhibition/training. Susan will talk to organizers about if they think it's a good idea.
- For Fall Festival (Betsy) will find out how to use school property by filling out a form she obtained from them.  
Council should look at what other towns are doing, like Barnstead 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this summer. Ideas generated for Strafford Fall Festival included scarecrow contest, pumpkin people town wide, pumpkin carving, games, costume contest, apple bobbing on a string, food trucks, agriculture displays/animals petting, music, artists, craft vendors.  
Council to consider other activities for discussion at upcoming meetings.
- Change of plans for the Authors Event 5/21/26 with Anne Young at the Independence Inn since she is doing a library talk this month. Betsy will talk to the Inn about doing a Culinary Arts Class and if they can host outdoor events.

**Next Meeting is moved to 3:00 on Thursday May 14, 2026 at the Library.**