

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 SUBCOMMITTEE of the TOWN OF STRAFFORD PLANNING BOARD

MEETING DATE: Friday September 25, 2026 11:00-12:00pm

MEETING PLACE: Hill Library

COMMITTEE: *Chair:* Susan Ryan (603-321-0163 = cell phone or text) (SuzRyan1@Gmail.com)
Cindy Lavigne (thevine57@yahoo.com), *Betsy* Schaefer (BetsyMac59@gmail.com), Ken Berry (KenBerry267@gmail.com),

Excused: Daniel Dupee (Bowlakerentals@yahoo.com)

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

Minutes

- Meeting called to Order at 11:00. Approved minutes from 6/25/26 with Cindy moving to adopt them and Betsy seconded. Not discussed during the meeting but communicated among all members previously is that Elaine Leker has had to step down from Council membership due to personal demands and Both the July and August meetings were canceled due to member unavailability.
- Discussed the success of the 3rd BowLakeAPaluzza on Saturday July 25, 2026 from 12:30-4:00. Community feedback was extremely positive.
- Note there is a Town Planning Committee on October 20 which is a quarterly update on our activities, Council member changes and challenges.
- As New Business, all members present once again noted there is an abundance of wonderful events and activities in our small town. Since our inception almost 4 years ago, we have been struggling to determine how to augment activities or find our niche without stepping on the good work and events others are supplying. Importantly, we are unsure there is a need for this Council, especially due to:
 - being a non-funded group (not a 501c3)
 - members being the funding source for expenses to date (not sustainable)
 - not having liability insurance for events, yet proceeding nonetheless
 - membership size

The Council agreed we will bring this to the Planning Committee in October and attend as a full Council. We will finalize our plan and communication message about the future of this Council at our next meeting on 10/13.

- **Next Scheduled Meeting** is 3:30 on Tuesday October 13, 2026 - **PLEASE NOTE THIS A CHANGE TO OUR USUAL 3rd Thursday.**