

# Londonderry Arts Council Meeting

12/14/2023

*In attendance (at Town Hall Moose Hill conference room):*

Officers: Larry Casey (chairperson), Stephanie Miville (vice chairperson) Karen Giguere (treasurer), Stephen Lee (secretary)

Voting members: Cit Waters, ~~Dasha Bulatova~~, ~~Greg Descoteaux~~, Jan McLaughlin

***We have a quorum for tonight's meeting.***

Volunteers: ~~Richard Flyer~~, Julie Lee

Visitors: None

## LAC WORKING GROUPS

**Youth Art Contest** (Karen Giguere, Cit Waters)

**Literary Magazine** (Dasha Bulatova, Larry Casey, Jan McLaughlin)

**Concerts on the Common** (Stephen Lee, Larry Casey, Steph Miville)

**Arts Café** (Karen Giguere, Larry Casey, Greg Descoteaux)

*Note: Notes from previous meetings, left in for reference, are in italics.*

## Opening Remarks / Welcome New Volunteers (Larry Casey)

- Welcome!

## Right To Know Statement (Larry Casey)

- Larry summarized Kirsten's presentation for Karen.
- Larry has a Town email address now. Others are waiting for their address (if they want one).

## Notes from Previous Meetings

- *Kirsten Hildonen explained the requirements we need to meet.*
- *We have to meet the town charter for the LAC. Kirsten brought our original charge and the current one.*
- *She suggested we change the charge to read "no fewer than X and no more than X voting members". We will discuss this at our December meeting, when Cit and Karen are present.*
- *We are an "ad hoc" committee.*
- *Kirsten suggested that we take new oaths after we update our charge. The oath won't "expire" since we are an ad hoc committee.*
- *The Town Council appoints members to the LAC.*
- *Larry asked about how we vote a member off the board. Kirsten will investigate.*
- *Need quorum of 51% of voting members to hold a meeting.*

- 91A Right-to-Know law. Kirsten explained the law to us.
- Meeting minutes have to be posted within (5) days of the meeting.
- Kirsten explained the rules around using email for LAC activities.
- Designate “working groups” for our various activities. Give them the authority to make decisions for that activity. **Have the vote to do that in the meeting minutes.**
- The town is currently working on getting an IT service for town email addresses.
- Use BCC to email to the group. That way, if you reply it only goes to the sender.
- If anyone gets a request with “right to know”, forward it to Kirsten.
- Kirsten will look into the rules around accepting gift cards at the concerts. Is there a dollar threshold where they have to be reported?

### **Membership** (Larry Casey)

- Steph is stepping away from the vice chair role. She would like to open it to someone else. She is not leaving the LAC.

### **Art Funding** (Larry Casey, Karen Giguere)

- We added a checkbox to the COTC fundraising form that will allow a donation to be used for arts events. We stated that sponsors will be promoted at the arts events. Two sponsors checked this box. Together they donated \$1300.

#### **Notes from Previous Meetings**

- Karen has requested we use \$500 of the Town funds to support art activities. This will go toward funding the Youth Art Contest.

### **Youth Art Contest** (Karen Giguere, Cit Waters)

- Only three submissions so far. Hoping for more submissions.
- STEPHEN: post the event on the COTC Facebook page.
- Cit updated the press release.

#### **Notes from Previous Meetings**

- We voted Karen and Cit to be the “working group” for this activity. **We voted to give them authority to make all decisions relevant to this activity.**
- Cit will be sending out a press release monthly.
- The application was put on the website, and the webpage has been updated.
- The theme is “Your Favorite Holiday”.
- Winners’ artwork will be displayed in the library in March.

### **Library Artists** (Dasha Bulatova)

- [Update from Dasha via email] Currently the Historical Society has some photographs up.
- We need an artist for January and Feb (any volunteers?).
- One person has used our new form to submit an application and I am working to get him on the schedule.

- I foresee needing some support with this program once Wild Apples gets up and running. This could include: Helping to recruit and communicate with artists, posting on social media, writing blog posts. We had discussed trying to work with additional volunteers for LAC and possibly hosting a session where interested volunteers could learn about our programs and where we need support. This program would be an area where support will be needed, and I would be glad to present on it.
- Dasha wants to get more volunteers for this event. She will be busy with the literary magazine.
- Larry suggested that we send out a request for help to the artist email list we have. Larry will send info to Cit and she will email it to the list.
- Larry will contact Wendy Wetherbee if she is interested.
- Larry will put out a press release asking for more artists. Dasha will send him the info to include.

#### **Notes from Previous Meetings**

- *Larry will send information about the program to his contacts at the New Hampshire Art Association and the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts. Dasha will write something up for this that Larry can use.*
- *Dasha will be using Google Forms for applications once the Community Standards is approved.*
- *Dasha explained that we will be adding a vetting process to select the artists. We want to be sure that the art is appropriate for the audience (which is all ages at the library). Will use the new Community Standards that is being reviewed now by the Town.*

#### **Literary Magazine** (Dasha Bulatova, Larry Casey, Jan McLaughlin)

- [Update from Dasha via email] New section and blurb added to our website: <https://londonderryartscouncil.org/wild-apples-literary-arts-journal>.
- Originally planned to open for submissions by end of year, I think I need to push this back to January or Feb given holidays and bandwidth. Need to create submission form and outline copyright guidance. Will edit blurb to reflect new timeframe.
- Will need press release once submissions open.
- Need to start list of potential contacts - also on my to do list.

#### **Notes from Previous Meetings**

- *We voted Dasha, Larry and Jan to be the “working group” for this activity. **We voted to give them authority to make all decisions relevant to this activity.***
- *We discussed getting sponsors and/or advertising to support the magazine. Larry said would be happy to help with this. This may be more appropriate for the second edition of the magazine; that way, potential sponsors would be able to see a sample magazine.*
- *The name of this new publication will be Wild Apples Literary and Art Magazine. Nice!*
- *It has a dedicated email address, [WildApples@londonderryartscouncil.org](mailto:WildApples@londonderryartscouncil.org).*
- *Annual publication, published around May.*
- *Dasha would like to have a logo for the magazine.*

### **Concerts on the Common** (Stephen Lee, Larry Casey, Steph Miville)

- We voted Stephen, Larry and Steph to be the “working group” for this activity. We voted to give **them authority to make all decisions relevant to this activity.**

#### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *Average outdoor attendance was 592. High was 907 for Studio Two (final concert).*
- *We had a lot of help from many groups and people this year. Many thanks!*
- *Studio Two has been booked for 2024’s last concert.*

### **State of New Hampshire Grant Application** (Larry Casey, Steph Miville, Jan McLaughlin, Stephen Lee)

- No update.

#### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *We were awarded \$5400 for 2024!*

### **Mailchimp** (Cit Waters)

- No update.

#### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *Can we use this platform for fundraising? Stephen to investigate.*

### **Nutfield Sessions** (Greg Descoteau)

- Nothing scheduled.

#### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *Still in limbo. Folks are telling Greg that they are reluctant to play in the smallish venue.*
- *The Nutfield Sessions are normally held the last Thursday of the month. 7-9.*

### **Art in Action** (Cit Waters, Karen Giguere)

- No update.

#### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *We discussed the possibility of having it at the Common. Schedule it for a Saturday, with Sunday as a rain date.*
- *Another possible location is the Morrison House. We would have to have it in a tent, as the Historical Society doesn’t want live art in the barn.*
- *Jan is interested in helping with this event. She will speak with Cit about it.*
- *Not sure if Cit has the artist email address that was used for past Art in Action events.*

#### **LAC Financial Report** (Karen Giguere, Stephen Lee)

- No update.

##### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *\$9418 on the music side.*
- *\$2238 on the art side.*

#### **Arts Café** (Karen Giguere, Larry Casey, Greg Descoteaux)

- We voted Karen, Greg and Larry to be the “working group” for this activity. We voted to give **them authority to make all decisions relevant to this activity.**

##### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *Karen discussed getting started with this in the next months.*

#### **Senior Center / Lions Jam Sessions** (Greg Descoteaux , Larry Casey)

- Next jam is January 14, 2024.

##### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *The next session is this Sunday, January 14, 2024. This will be the forth session.*
- *Expecting 10-15 musicians.*
- *This event is held quarterly.*

#### **LAC Blog / Social Media** (Dasha Bulatova, Steph Miville)

- No update.

##### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *Steph and Jan will send ideas.*

#### **Old Home Day** (Jan McLaughlin)

- No news.

##### ***Notes from Previous Meetings***

- *Jan’s “spinning art” was a **hit** with the kids at OHD.*
- *We should have more help for next year – our booth and spin art activity was very popular!*


#### **Misc. Items** (All)

- March 2006 – our updated charter. We will discuss this in detail when Dasha and Greg are present.
- We will ask Sherry Farrell to come to a meeting to swear us in.
- Jan said that the Library has a few artists interested in the mural.
- Larry reached out to the NHAA - NH Artists Association. Larry is getting together in March with the plein air guy. He likes the venues that Larry put in a PPT he shared with them.

- Maybe work with them to rekindle Art in Action. Cit will consider. She may want to rebrand AiA, since we are having trouble finding a good venue for the artists.
- [Update from Dasha via email] Library Mural Project:
  - As of a few weeks ago only received 2 submissions.
  - Deadline pushed back to Dec. 28.
  - I posted this on social media.
  - I emailed Greg to ask if he would submit.
  - Will update our judges (Steph and Ellen if I remember correctly) of what they will need to do once submissions close, and I get more details.

#### **Notes from Previous Meetings**

- *The library has asked us to participate and promote in finding someone to create a mural for the children's area.*
  - *Dasha will be our interface with the library for this activity.*
  - *We will split the stipend cost of \$500 with the library.*
  - *Application deadline is Nov. 30.*
  - *We will help with the judging.*
  - *Karen and Jan will help with this activity.*
  - *Karen will send Cit and Dasha her list of local artists. They will then add artists' names that they are aware of. Dasha will be responsible for the email blast to artists.*
  - ***The committee voted 5-0 to support this, including providing \$250.***
- *Larry will write a press release asking for more LAC participants. Focus will be writers. Dasha suggested posting on social media and hosting an informal gathering. Cit suggested reaching out to seniors at LHS.*
- *Larry would like to see the LAC have better branding. Make a new logo. Use the same fonts as the COTC signage.*
- *Dasha had ideas on how to do this.*
- *Stephen sent out the COTC logo and images to the council for everyone to see. Cit has an idea she is working on. She should have something to present soon.*
- *Larry will ask Cit how she is doing on creating a new LAC logo. Hope to have it for the banner we will make for Old Home Day.*

-  Next meeting is Thursday **January 11, 2024.**