

Londonderry Arts Council Meeting

10/12/2023

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.

Non-voting members: ~~Richard Flyer~~, Julie Lee

Visitors: Madeline (interested in comic book art).

Note: Past updates, left in for reference, are in italics.

Opening Remarks / Welcome New Volunteers (Steph)

- Welcome!

Right To Know Statement (Larry)

- Need quorum of 51% of voting members to hold a meeting. *Larry will discuss this with Mike Malaguti to see if we can structure the board so we can have meetings and encourage participation from everyone.*

Membership (Larry)

- No update.

Art Funding (Larry, Karen)

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

Online Youth Art Contest (Karen Giguere, Cit Waters)

- 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.
- Karen sent out information to many people to promote the contest. She asked other LAC members to forward the email to their friends and family, also.
- Larry sent information about the event to other outlets.
- *There will be a press release.*

Library Artists (Dasha)

- We currently have a great artist in the library.

- Working on getting an “Around Town” in the newspaper about this.
- Larry will send information about the program to his Art groups contacts. 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)

- Dasha wrote a Community Standards guide for what submissions are acceptable/permissible.
- Larry will meet with Mike Malaguti for his input.
- Madeline asked about submitting some of her work to the magazine. Of course!! 😊
- 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.
- Stephen remarked that we have a potential sponsor mailing list from Concerts on the Common.
- Dasha would like to get use of Adobe InDesign to create the magazine. It is a subscription model to use the software and costs \$30/month. There was full support from the other board members to do this.
- *The name of this new publication will be Wild Apples Literary and Art Magazine. Nice!*
- *It has a dedicated email address, WildApples@londonderryartscouncil.org.*
- *Annual publication, published around May.*
- *Dasha would like to have a logo for the magazine.*

Concerts on the Common (Stephen/Larry/Steph)

- *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)

- Larry brought the grant package from the state. Steph read their feedback on the application.
- Larry has been working on the final report for this year's grant. Steph and Stephen will provide support.
- We were awarded **\$5400** for 2024!

Mailchimp (Cit)

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

Nutfield Sessions (Greg Descoteau)

- Nothing scheduled.

- *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, Karen)

- 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.

Financial Report (Karen, Stephen)

- *We have requested an updated report from the Town.*
- *\$9418 on the music side.*
- *Art side has \$2238.*

Arts Café (Karen)

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

Senior Center / Lions Jam Sessions (Greg/Larry)

- The next session is this Sunday, Oct. 15. This will be the third session.
- Expecting 10-15 musicians.
- *This event is held quarterly.*

Blog / Social Media (Dasha/Steph)

- No update.
- *Steph and Jan will send ideas.*

Old Home Day (Jan)

- No news.
- *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)

- The library mural contest has started.
- Madeline was interested in learning about this opportunity.
- *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 November 9, 2023.**