

Town of Washington

Arts Council

Minutes

September 14, 2023- 7:00 pm

Bryan Town Hall main conference room and zoom

Members Present:

Fran Keilty, Karen Silk, Victoria Rowan

Staff: Michelle Gorra- Economic and Community Development Coordinator

1. Call to order 7:14
2. Consideration of the Minutes of August 10, 2023- tabled
3. Updates
 - a. Sharing of events and feedback- the Washington Friends of Music concerts were really well attended; the Library had their annual booked fundraiser which was very successful and had a great band. The Norman Sunshine WAA extension opening was very successful. The space is hoped to be used for classes and lectures. The Judy Black park also had an artist opening.
 - b. Arts Council fund account- Michelle spoke with Linda Gomez, the town Finance Manager, and we are all set to have an Arts Council fund within the town. There is no electronic payment capability at the moment but that can be explored in the future.
 - c. Mail chimp account- It has not been set up yet. We have not collected email addresses yet but plan to at the Harvest Festival. We will also have a way to sign up on the town web-site.
4. New Business
 - a. Market bags with new logo- Karen showed us the bag WEC made a few years ago. It was made by Chico. WEC had sponsors support the making of the bag. The Arts Council could explore having arts organizations in town support. We will get some estimates and options for our next meeting so we can discuss having one made. "Notabag" makes a more substantial bag that turns into a backpack that could be more of a gift item. Karen wants to make sure we don't price people out and be viewed as exclusive. "Arts for All"
 - b. Harvest Festival Oct 8. Table with EDC, 12-5 We will share a table. Michelle will have material ready if members can help staff it. We will collect emails and introduce the Arts Council to the community. We will also promote the Photo Exhibit. Victoria will be able to help set up and can man the table. Victoria

wondered if we might be able to make a magnet, sticker or a pen with our logo as a giveaway. We need to get a high res file of the logo.

5. Old Business

- a. Discuss preparation for Photo Exhibit "Washington Through the Seasons" - The announcement went in the Selectmen's email and fliers have been hung around town. We will also have a sandwich board and an exhibit announcement poster. Michelle, Victoria, Kirsten, Abdo, Fran, Tracy and Kent will be able to attend. We would like to have some kind of presentation. Victoria reached out to Washington Friends of Music to share their recording of the Four Seasons to have in the background. We will provide some refreshment. Popcorn machine, cider. Victoria spoke with Rich Pomerantz, a local photographer, about photo pricing. We will sell for \$50. Artists will have the option to: 1- not sell, 2- sell and donate proceeds or 3- sell and donate proceeds.
- b. Manning "What's happening" sandwich board on Saturdays. Victoria is away this weekend and can't man it. The board has not been repaired since it was left out in the rain. We will have it back soon.

6. Public Comment- Karen wondered if we need to recruit more members. Attendance at the meetings has declined and not everyone seems to have time to contribute outside of meetings. We could try to recruit "Friends of the Council" that might be interested on specific events.

7. Adjournment- 8:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Gorra

Recording of the meeting

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whArf20erLA>