



## CHESHIRE PERFORMING FINE ARTS COMMITTEE

1220 Waterbury Road • Cheshire, Connecticut 06410

Phone 203.272.ARTS (2787) FAX 203.699-8857

### CHESHIRE PERFORMING AND FINE ARTS COMMITTEE MEETING

**May 19, 2020 7:00 pm**

**Artsplace**

**1220 Waterbury Road**

**Cheshire, CT 06410**

**Committee Members Present:** Ophelia Frazier, Katie Giampietro, Youchung Torok, Jill Veiga, Joyce Karklel, Donna Lodynsky, Denise Lohr, Donna Myjak

**Others Present:**

Joan Pilarczyk (Director, Artsplace)

Beth Crowley (Cheshire Public Library Director)

Donna Mark (President of Friends of CPFA/Artsplace, Inc.)

**Absent:**

Sylvia Nichols (Cheshire Town Council)

Monique D'Onofrio (CPFA member)

Signian McGeary (CPFA member)

Kristy Endriss (CPFA member)

1. **Determination of Quorum:** A quorum was present for this meeting

2. **Call to order and salute to the flag:** Chairwoman Lodynsky called meeting to order at 7:04 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Welcome Remarks:** Chairwoman Lodynsky welcomed all members and three guests, 2020 Cheshire High School recipients of the two gold (\$1,000.00 each) & one silver (\$500.00) Scholarships in Memory of Richard W Conrad, Miss Nina Chang, Miss Haleigh Schmidt, and Miss Samantha Nowak.

Ms. Myjak, from the Scholarship Subcommittee introduced the two gold and one silver scholarship recipients and asked them each to say a few words about their plans for college.

Recipient Nina Chang noted that she will be attending RISD and studying Industrial Design. She has been working at the Eli Whitney Museum and thanks her parents for their great support.

Recipient Haleigh Schmidt said that she will be attending UCONN with a major in Illustration. She is interested in drawing and storytelling and has been working at the Cheshire Public Library for the past year. She is thankful for very supportive parents and siblings who are all artistically inclined. She, along with several other girls, began the Cheshire High School Art Club, in her Junior Year, and painted a mural in guidance hallways, as well as chairing other art activities at Cheshire High.





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Recipient Samantha Nowak will attend the University of Miami, where she will study architecture. She is passionate about creating, design, STEM classes, and it was an internship in an architecture firm last summer that helped her decide on what to study, and she is thankful for the scholarship that will help her pursue her studies next year.

Ms. Lodynsky asked each of the recipients to please take a photo of themselves holding their scholarship check and to send the photo to Artsplace, so that photos may be submitted to local newspapers.

**4. Public Communication** – No public communications.

**5. Approval of March 10, 2020 minutes:** Ms. Lohr made a motion to accept the minutes. Ms. Myjak seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**6. Treasurer's Report:** Ms. Pilarczyk reported for Ms. McGeary, who was unable to attend. Ms. Pilarczyk reported that 83% of budget has been used to date, and that there will be some money left in the budget due to Covid-19. Ms. Frazier made a motion to accept the report. Motion was seconded by Ms. Torok and the motion passed.

**7. Secretary's Report:** Ms. Myjak reported that there is no secretary's report at this time.

**8. Library Report:** a. Ms. Crowley reported that since March, the Cheshire Public Library has conducted 48 virtual programs, created multiple instructional videos on their YouTube Channel, added to the e-book collection, and made Acorn TV available. They are in the midst of creating a phased in reopening plan, contact list material pickup, but are waiting for guidelines from the town. Questions for the library can be asked by phone and email as well. The library is available with technical help. Sixty new library card applications were processed online.

**9. Friends of CPFA/Artsplace Report:**

a. Ms. Donna Mark reported that there are no scheduled meetings at this time due to Covid-19.

b. The author that they have secured for the 2020 Author Night program is booked for October. The author is equally secured for 2021 if this year's event needs to be cancelled.

c. Ms. Mark also reported that there are no clients for the Art Heals program due to pandemic restrictions. She also reported that the daughter of longtime Artsplace student Janet Kirk asked that people make donations in her memory towards the Art Heals Program. For those unfamiliar with the program, Art Heals helps homebound Cheshire residents experience art at home. Artsplace sends an artist to a home bound individual to give six private art lessons. The artwork created is framed and the individual gets to keep the finished artwork. Over the years Art Heals has served over 60 people in Cheshire. Plans are on hold to offer instruction to other Connecticut towns on the implementation of the Art Heals Program.





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### 10. Artsplace Report:

a. Ms. Pilarczyk thanked Ms. Crowley for all her help and support; she thanked Ms. Gansley for cleaning over 1500 brushes and organizing the Visual Reference file; Ms. Wnuk for posting on Facebook and Instagram; and Ms. Piedescalzo for working in the office processing refunds, working on the new webpage and preparing Artsplace to re-open.

b. Artsplace canceled and refunded 140 Spring enrollments. Summer classes and workshops will be available to adults and teens with teachers who feel comfortable working in the building, in July and August. Online classes and workshops will also be available for children, teens and adults.

c. In the yearly budget presentation for the town Ms. Pilarczyk cut below what was asked for last year. She anticipates online classes will help bring in revenue.

d. Ms. Pilarczyk and Ms. Piedescalzo measured and taped out an area upstairs. The 36 x70 sized room will hold up to 10 students. Ms. Pilarczyk has contracted with a professional for filming virtual classes.

e. As to the town website, Arnett Talbot has created a page for each department, and they are all working on their own contributions.

f. The exterior cameras have been installed outside Artsplace and are currently working.

g. "Pina's Giving Garden", will provide vegetables and herbs this year, all for free to town residents. Both the Butterfly Garden and Michael's Garden were weeded and prepared for the season by Artsplace friend Gary Richards.

### 11. Old Business:

a. Ms. Karklel noted that ARTSDAY for March 15, 2020 was cancelled and that the next ARTSDAY will be March 14, 2021 at the Cheshire Academy (which has a deposit for next year) and that the majority of artists scheduled for this year will take part.

### 12. New Business:

a. Ms. Pilarczyk reported that she would like to use some of the budget to purchase items necessary for opening the building to the public, including, laptops for teacher and staff use, a plexiglass box for teachers conducting class, a plexi barrier for the director's office and touchless soap dispensers for bathrooms.

b. Ms. Pilarczyk, and Ms. Lodynsky thanked the committee members for their hard work for the organization.

c. Adjournment: Ms. Veiga made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Frazier seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Agnes Wnuk

