

Cheshire Performing and Fine Arts Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2020
Artsplace
1220 Waterbury Road
Cheshire, CT 06410

Committee Members Present: , Kristy Endriss, Ophelia Frazier, Katie Giampietro, Donna Lodynsky, Denise Lohr, Signian McGeary, Donna Myjak, Youchung Torok, Jill Veiga

Others Present:

Beth Crowley (Cheshire Public Library Director)
Joan Pilarczyk (Artsplace Director)
Donna Mark (President of Friends of CPFA/Artsplace, Inc.)

Absent:

Sylvia Nichols (Cheshire Town Council)
Monique D'Onofrio (CPFA member)
Joyce Karklel (CPFA member)

1. **Determination of Quorum:** A quorum was present for this meeting.
2. **Call to Order and salute of flag:** Chairwoman Lodynsky called meeting to order at 7:42pm.
3. **Welcome remarks:** Chairwoman Lodynsky welcomed all members and others present.
4. **Public Communications:** No public communications.
5. **Approval of October 20th 2020 minutes:**
 6. **Should read: "Artsplace budget was on target"**
 6. **"Accpet should read accept".**
 - 11a. **Should read: "...Donna Lodynsky chair of CPFA and board members..."**

Motion to accept minutes made by Ms. Lohr, seconded by Ms. McGeary.

6. Treasurer's Report: Ms. McGeary noted that the Artsplace budget was on target at 26.6%. Ms. Pilarczyk mentioned that last year the budget was at 38.5% during the same period.

Motion made by Ms. Giampietro to accept the Treasurer's Report, and Ms. Torok seconded.

7. Secretary's Report:

- a. Ms. Myjak read out a letter of annual appeal to the community from the Cheshire Community Food Pantry. Their need has increased by 15% this year. Ms. Lodynsky asked members that they make individual donations this year rather than bringing items to Artsplace for donation. The address to send donation to the Pantry is P.O. Box 457, Cheshire, CT. 06410.
- b. Ms. Lodynsky asked the secretary send a get well card to Ms. Sandy Patela, and to wish her well from the entire committee.

8. Library Report:

- a. Ms. Crowley noted that in-person services were in place since September 16th, hours being ten to seven on Monday and Wednesday, ten to four Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and ten to one on Saturdays. Curbside service is still available. The library submitted its Annual State Report. It has gone up

in new library cards by 17%, 48% up in usage of databases and 30% up in the usage of e-books.

b. Ms. Crowley noted that Ms. Sylvia Nichols would be conducting a Zoom class of holiday decorations on November 30th.

9. Friends of CPFA/Artsplace Report:

a. Ms. Mark mentioned that the "Trail Project" is moving forward, with a manual being made for artists to use in making the "puzzle pieces" for the project. She mentioned that Ms. Agnes Wnuk is making the sketches for the project. Permission must be granted from Parks and Recreation and DEEP for the project to go ahead. Ms. Mark mentioned that Ms. Signian McGeary has also applied for a project for the trail, which will be explained under her report.

10. Artsplace Report:

a. Ms. Pilarczyk mentioned that there are currently two-hour class in am and pm, Monday thru Thursday, with nine students maximum per class. Classes run for three weeks with a week of vacation inbetween and then three more weeks of classes. There are also evening and Saturday workshops offered. There are assigned seats, assigned boxes of supplies and contact tracing.

b. The evening and weekend staff received a lesson on disinfecting, tables, chairs, rails and handles.

c. A used computer has been added to the main office for evening and weekend staff to use.

d. Ms. Pilarczyk described the Town Chamber Art Project proposal to members. For the first part of the project Artsplace will use photographs from annual events and print them on canvas. The images will be first hung in the Town Hall lobby and later go to the Town Chambers upstairs.

e. Ms. Pilarcyk reported on the Scarecrow project, noting that the Artsplace Frieda scarecrow was taken down and housed for use next year. It is hoped that the event will be reprised next October.

11. Old Business:

a. Ms. Torok and Ms. Veiga gave an update of the Pumpkin Contest held at Dodd Middle School that they took part in. They both felt that it had been a great success and that they can see it taking place again next year. Entries they noted were very interesting.

12. New Business:

a. Ms. Lodynsky noted that the Pajama Program is active at Artsplace. There is a recepticle outside the building front door for people to deposit items. She noted that this year it is especially important to donate since Carters and Scholastic will not be donating for the first time. The last day to donate will be December 10th. Ms. Lodynsky also asked that members bring donations of gift cards to Town Hall to the Social Worker as this year Artsplace will not be collecting art materials for the program.

b. Ms. Lodynsky updated the members about the Scholarship Committee. Ms. Fraier, Ms. Torok and Ms. Myjak would be getting the essays from CHS students soon for their perusal.

c. Ms. Lodynsky noted that there would not be a meeting this year in December. The next meeting is at 7:30pm on Zoom on January 19th.

d. Members determined the meeting dates for the 2021 year:

January 19, 2021	May 18, 2021	October 19, 2021
February 16, 2021	June 15, 2021	November 16, 2021
March 16, 2021	July 20, 2021	December 7, 2021
April 20, 2021	September 21, 2021	January 18, 2022

e. Ms. McGeary updated members on a project that she is leading as president of the Suburban Garden Club of Cheshire. She has taken a two day online workshop with others from Cheshire for creating a project on the Trail in Cheshire for local youth covering conservation efforts. The project will encompass the trail from Cornwall Street to Jarvis Street. The floral and fauna will be studies and conveyed to the

public in online formats and information stations along the trail. There will be an art component as well for which Ms. Pilarczyk is a consultant. Trail signs will have to be approved by Parks and Recreation. the project is done in conjunction with UCONN.

f. Adjournment: The meeting ended at 8:21pm with a motion from Ms. McGeary and seconded by Ms. Lohr.

Submitted respectfully by,
Agnes Wnuk