

Londonderry Arts Council Meeting

2/8/2024

In attendance (at Town Hall Moose Hill Council Chambers):

Officers: Larry Casey (Chairperson), Stephanie Miville (Vice Chairperson) Jan McLaughlin (Treasurer), Stephen Lee (Secretary)

Voting members: Cit Waters, Dasha Bulatova, Greg Descoteaux, Karen Giguere

We have a quorum for tonight's meeting.

Volunteers: ~~Richard Flyer~~, Julie Lee

Visitors: Debbie Curtin

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.*

Membership/Officers (Larry Casey)

- Jonathan Kipp came to the meeting to swear in the members.
- We voted on officers for 2024.
 - Larry will continue as chairman.

- Steph is stepping away from the vice chair role. She would like to open it to someone else. Greg expressed an interest and we will address this role when Steph is in attendance.
- Stephen will continue as Secretary unless someone else would like to take the position.
- Jan will take over Karen's role as Treasurer, starting April 1.

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.
- Karen will make a budget for Arts Café to show what funds she needs to support the event.

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)

- We have (16) entrants. Only (1) in the oldest category.
- Judges are ready to go, Cit will send Greg the info to get started.
- This is the fourth year of the contest – yay!

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.***
- *The theme is “Your Favorite Holiday”.*
- *Winners’ artwork will be displayed in the library in March.*

Library Artists (Jan McLaughlin)

- Jan will be taking over this activity from Dasha.
- Dasha scheduled a couple of artists that responded to the press release last week.
- The Youth Contest will display for March and April. Cit is managing this.

Notes from Previous Meetings

- *Display for two months instead of one, so there is less of a time commitment with this event.*

Wild Apples Literary Magazine (Dasha Bulatova, Larry Casey, Jan McLaughlin)

- Mike Malaguti is reviewing the contract that will be used with submitters.
- We discussed when the first issue will be published. Dasha suggested Spring 2025.
- Open submission immediately.
- Larry discussed writing a more complete description of the magazine for the website and a press release. Dasha will update the website language and Larry will help edit.

- It has a dedicated email address, WildApples@londonderryartscouncil.org. Stephen will figure out how Dasha can use this.
- Jan suggested advertising the magazine at Old Home Days.

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.***
- *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)

- Working to book all the concert dates. Only two dates to firm up.
- Children's Concert with Library
 - Donna Plante sent some suggestions for performers for the Children’s Concert with the Library.
- Once the concert schedule is set, Larry will go to a Town Council meeting to tell them about all of the events and activities the LAC is involved in.
- Separately, a couple of weeks later, Larry and Stephen will present this summer’s concert schedule to the Town Council.

Notes from Previous Meetings

- *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.***
- *Average outdoor attendance was 592. High was 907 for Studio Two (final concert).*

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

- The check was received.

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)

- We decided to remove this topic from our minutes. There are no plans to continue this event.

Notes from Previous Meetings

- *The Nutfield Sessions are normally held the last Thursday of the month. 7-9.*

Art in Action (Cit Waters, Karen Giguere)

- Larry said that we may be able to hold Art in Action at the Mayflower Grange/Senior Center.
- The Director of Senior Affairs, Ilona Arndt, is very supportive of our activities.

Notes from Previous Meetings

- ...

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)

- Karen suggested holding it on April 13.
- It will be held at the Senior Center.
- Will do a 50/50 raffle again.
- Karen looked into running a color ad in the Londonderry Times. The artist fees will cover the cost, but it doesn't seem that it is a good value to do this. We decided not to run this ad.
- Larry will write a press release for a call to artists. Karen is on vacation March 1-16, and would like to get the artists set before then, if possible.
- Larry will write a press release to promote the event.

Notes from Previous Meetings

- ...

Senior Center / For The Love of Music (Greg Descoteaux , Larry Casey)

- Greg isn't going to be run the next session. Larry will be running the event this time.

Notes from Previous Meetings

- *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!*

Library Children's Room Mural (Dasha)

- Steph and Ellen (the judges) selected the winner, Melissa Keyes. Her submission was "Friends with Apples and Books".
- She will start work after March 1.
- We will pay our portion, \$250, after the work is done.

Creative Ground (Larry Casey)

- Larry discussed using this group to make connections with local artists. It is a non-profit organization to link arts groups with artists.
- Artists can share their work and activities on the website.
- There are thousands of artists in the database. You can filter by location, and send messages to the filtered group.
- We can use this connect with local artists.
- Larry registered LAC with the organization.

Misc. Items (All)

- Karen asked about getting money for the Art side.
- Larry asked for budgets for events, so we can plan.
- Steph will put together an event planning template to help budget and plan.

Notes from Previous Meetings

- *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.*
- *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 **March 14, 2024.**