

METUCHEN ARTS COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

Chairman Grace Shackney called the meeting to order at 8pm. Those in attendance: Terry Kohl, Amy Brooks, Carissa Sestito, Chris Morrison, Ron Grayzel, Carolyn Hamming, John Sharp, Linda LaStella, Amy Brooks, and guest Sheri Rose-Rubin.

SUNSHINE LAW ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & WELCOME:

Grace acknowledged the meeting was open to the public in pursuant to the Sunshine Law and welcomed all present.

PROGRAM REPORTS AND UP-DATES:

- **JAZZFEST:** Carolyn reported that the Jazz Fest on September 22nd was a success. Performing were Mike Kaplan Nonet and Richard Reiter Swing Group. There were approximately 200 people in attendance.
- **2013 COUNTY GRANT:** Grace brought up the MCCCH grants which are due October/November. It was agreed that we would apply for the same grants for the summer concerts and the Jazzfest for 2013. A committee will be formed to study what programs we might want to apply for next year for the 2014 season.
- The Gallery opening at St Luke's was a success and our flora arrangement was beautiful. Grace designed a plaque to go with the flowers that offered the Arts Council's best wishes.
- **GALLERY @ THE ROTUNDA:** Amy reported that the Gallery at the Rotunda will present a show of women artists from north India from October 1 to December 31. A reception will be held on Oct. 21st at noon. The gallery committee is working on a skip presentation for the opening with a live video feed of the artists from India. Campbell School will be showing in the student gallery.
 - Linda suggested we look into the installation of professional lighting in the gallery. She will research the cost involved.

2013 PROGRAM PLANNING:

The following ideas for future programming were discussed:

- **DANCE:** Grace attended an outdoor dance presentation performed by the members of DanceSpora. The piece was done outdoors at the D&R Greenway's St. Michaels Farm Preserve in Hopewell. Grace is investigating what it would take to bring the company to Metuchen to one of our outdoor spaces.
- Carissa and Chris talked about getting students more interested in the arts. Carissa suggested sponsoring a "shorts" film festival. She also suggested partnering with other groups during one of the many town events to produce a "historical reenactment."
- John will be working on the coffee house programs for 2013.
- Sheri Rose-Rubin presented information about outdoor art projects that

included commissioning artist to design murals and create street art. She also showed pictures of the painted traffic control boxes in Somerset County. She expressed her hope that the Arts Council would look into the ideas of creating street art of this sort in Metuchen.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **JUNEBUG:** Amy reported that there had not been many responses to the Junebug Committee survey that was to gage the impact of Junebug on local businesses. She and Linda expressed the need for the Arts Council's continued support as a new Junebug committee organizes to plan for 2013.

In closing, Grace announced that at our next meeting, which is scheduled for October 22, 2012, we will talk about grants, fundraising and a slate of officers to be elected in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by, Carolyn Hamming