

METUCHEN ARTS COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes, August 26, 2013

Chairperson, Grace Shackney, called the meeting of the Metuchen Arts Council to order. Present were Amy Brooks, Ed Logue, Bonnie Lombardo, Christopher Morrison, John Sharp, Ron Grayzel, Linda LaStella and Grace Shackney

Sunshine Law Acknowledgement:

Chairperson Grace Shackney acknowledged that the meeting was open to the public pursuant to the Sunshine Law.

Approval of Minutes from the Meetings of the July 29th meeting.

The Minutes of the July 29th meeting were approved with the following corrections:

- Chris Morrison initiated the discussion about electronic bulletin boards
- John Sharp should be added to the attendance

John Sharp made a motion to approve the July 29th meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved by those present.

Program Reports:

- Gallery Report:
 - On September 21st Nails in the Wall Gallery @ St. Luke's will hold an opening reception for the Exhibition, "Spirituality of the Mandela, Reality in the Round" from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Also on that day at 7:00 p.m. Transformations Gallery at the Old Franklin School House will host an opening reception for the exhibit "Catching Up: Friends then, art now."
 - Amy Brooks reported that the four galleries in town are planning a Gallery Walk on October 13th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. They are looking for restaurant partners for each gallery. The Arts Council was asked to secure a musician to play outside Borough Hall.
- Jazzfest: Jazzfest takes place on the same day as the above mentioned gallery openings on September 21. The performance starts at 3:00 p.m. in the plaza in front of Borough Hall. The program will be held at the Senior Center should it rain. Performing will be the James L. Dean Big Band and jazz vocalist Carrie Jackson and her band. Grace Shackney will tie the Jazzfest to the "Artfest" in our press releases.
- Metuchen Rocks! Concert Series: Grace Shackney reported that we had an excellent turnout for the August 15th concert with the Philadelphia Jazz Orchestra and on August 22 for Eryn Shewell and the Whiskey Devils with between 150 and 200 people for both. Feedback from the audience was very positive for both shows. All is set for the Reggae band Random Test on August 29th and Citizens Band Radio on Sunday, September 1st. Grace urged the Council members to come out and support the concerts.

- **DanceSpora Outdoor Dance Program:** Grace Shackney reported that DanceSpora is not able to commit to a September date to perform in Metuchen, as they are involved in rehearsals and performances of a new dance piece in Trenton. While they have availability in October, Grace suggested that we put this program on the agenda for next year and book a mutually acceptable date well in advance that we can fully publicize. All present were in agreement.

Budgeting & Programming for 2014

Grace Shackney asked that this item be taken up at our September 23rd meeting. She asked everyone to come to that meeting with programming ideas and budgets. Grace will prepare an overall budget of monies available.

Old Business

- **Web Design progress** – Henry Chang, Tamara Hladik, Carissa Sestito and Nancy Goldberg have will meet in August and report back to the Arts Council in September.
- **Metuchen Arts Directory** – Linda LaStella reported that a committee has been formed to put together a directory of Metuchen artists that can be linked to the Borough's website and ours. There was nothing new to report at this time.
- **Electronic Bulletin Board** – John Sharp will get information about the cost of the bulletin board used by Plays in the Park.

Announcements

Open Mics – A reminder that the Open Mics take place the last Friday of every month at Brewed Awakening.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2013 at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted by:

Grace Shackney (in the absence of Secretary Terry Kohl)