

METUCHEN ARTS COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES, **JANUARY 28, 2013**

The Metuchen Arts Council meeting on January 26th was called to order by Chairperson Grace Shackney at 8:00 p.m. Those present were: Amy Brooks, Henry Chang, Carolyn Hemming, Terry Kohl, Bonnie Lombardo, Christopher Morrison, Grace Shackney, John Sharp; Advisory Board member Kim Adlerman; Mark Harris, Gallery @ the Rotunda board member; and Councilman Ron Grayzel and Recreation Director Nancy Goldberg.

SUNSHINE LAW ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

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

WELCOME TO NEW COUNCIL PERSON BONNIE LOMBARDO:

Grace Shackney welcomed newly appointed councilperson Bonnie Lombardo. Introductions were made around the table. Grace acknowledged the reappointment of Carolyn Hemming, Ed Logue, Dorothy Winhold and herself.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chris Morrison moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on November 26, 2012. The motion was seconded by Grace Shackney. The minutes were approved by all present.

VOTE FOR SLATE OF OFFICERS:

John Sharp moved to approve the Slate of Officers. The motion was seconded by Christopher Morrison. The following slate was unanimously approved by all present. Kathy Glaser, Ed Logue and Carissa Sestito submitted their vote in favor of the slate by email:

- Chairperson: Grace Shackney
- Vice Chairperson: Amy Brooks
- Secretary: Terry Kohl

PROGRAM REPORTS:

- **Gallery @ The Rotunda:** Kim reported that the next artist to exhibit in the Gallery will be David Nicoletti from January 12th through the end of March. The Student Gallery will be occupied by St. Joseph's High School. There was discussion on the progress of the production of the Gallery banners that will go on the lampposts in front of Borough Hall. Kim Adlerman is designing the Gallery logo
- **Outdoor Art:** Grace reported on an idea being discussed by several groups in town to commission an outdoor mural. Also discussed were ideas to enhance Martin Luther King Park situated between Borough Hall and the Metuchen Library, perhaps with outdoor art installations, benches and public performances. The idea of commissioning an artist to produce "wraps" for traffic boxes was revisited. A sub committee consisting of Chris Morrison

and Carolyn Hemming was formed to work with others in town on these ideas.

- **Russian Ballet Bus Trip:** Carolyn Hemming reported on the success of the January bus trip to Princeton to see the performance of the ballet, *Cinderella*. A total of 36 people attended. Carolyn discussed ideas for future trip which include the Barnes Museum in Philadelphia, the Botanical Gardens and the Cloisters in New York, and a trip to see the Broadway musical *The Book of Mormon*, all of which she will develop further.

PROGRAM PLANNING:

- **Junebug:** It was reported that the Junebug Festival is on hold at the moment while a chairperson or co-chairpersons are found.
- **Coffeehouse Series:** There was nothing to report at this time.
- **The BIL SummerHouse 2013:** Grace reported that the BIL will most likely offer up the Old Franklin School for SummerHouse activities again this year. No details were available at the time of this meeting.
- **Outdoor Movie Night:** Henry Chang will work with Nancy Goldberg on movie programming for the summer outdoor movie night.
- **METUCHEN ROCKS!:** Grace has started contacting bands for the summer concert series. She will have more details next month. We did receive a grant from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission for \$2,100. Metuchen Savings Bank, traditionally, has also been a sponsor of this series. Chris Morrison will look into producing videos of performances on Tube.
- **Open Mikes:** Danny Adlerman continues to conduct Open Mike programs at various venues downtown that are attracting audiences as well as talented performers. February dates include Friday, February 22nd, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Brewed Awakening.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Gallery Lighting:** Nancy Goldberg reported that the Borough is investigating lighting and installation for The Gallery @ The Rotunda. She will keep the Arts Council informed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Chris Morrison's company is getting rid of some old wireless microphones. He is looking to see if they would be suitable for our use.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- It was mentioned that The Nails in The Wall Gallery at St. Lukes latest exhibition is called *Windows on Heaven* with examples of old and new icons. The opening reception was attended by several Arts Council members.

All business being completed, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. **The next Arts Council meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2013.**