

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

The Metuchen Arts Council meeting on October 28, 2012 called to order by Chairperson Grace Shackney at 8:05 p.m. Those present were: Amy Brooks, Henry Chang, Grace Shackney, Kim Adlerman, John Sharp, Carissa Sestito, Carolyn Hamming, Chris Morrison, Linda LaStella, Tamara Hladik, John Sharp, Judy Wineberg, Terry Kohl, Nancy Goldberg and Ron Grayzel. Also in attendance was guest

SUNSHINE LAW ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING ON September 23, 2013:

Grace Shackney moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting held September 23 with no changes. Carolyn Hamming seconded and all approved.

PROGRAM REPORTS:

- Gallery @ The Rotunda:
 - Linda LaStella provided a wrap up of the October Gallery Walk. It was quite a success and it was estimated that between 150-200 people participated. The meeting of the Gallery Walk committee felt the effort was worthwhile and should be done again in the coming years.
 - The council had a discussion as to how to proceed in previewing up coming exhibits for the Rotunda Gallery by Borough Hall employees. Efforts are to be made to have showings prior to the formal openings. Kim reported that the next artist is Chelsea Villegas who does mixed media art and her opening is January 12 , 2014.
- Artist Directory: Linda provided a power point presentation to the council with her committee's ideas for the directory. It was felt by the council that all artists should be included not just the professionals. There was discussion about the appropriateness of such a directory on a municipal website. Grace Shackney suggested that the Arts Council study how similar directors are posted in other municipalities. Linda will research some examples.
- Website: Henry and Tamara reported that the small group continues to meet and a report on the creation of the Arts Council website will be forthcoming at a later meeting.
- Grant Applications: Grace Shackney reported that grant applications have been submitted to the Middlesex County Heritage Commission for both Metuchen Rocks and Jazz Fest for 2014.

- Program Review:
 - The Borough Improvement League is doing an evening of EDB (Eat, Drink and Buy Art) the first week of December. The spring may bring a public street art project call a Sheep event.
 - The Grace Shackney is talking to Dancespora about scheduling an outdoor dance program in May or June of 2014.
 - Grace also proposed that we present one of the Metuchen Rocks concerts in September in conjunction with the Metuchen Farmers Market to promote sustainable farming, good nutrition and food bank donations.
 - A Bus trip to the Grounds for Sculpture and/or the Cloisters may be scheduled for the Spring.
- Community Art Project: Linda LaStella gave a presentation of her vision for a community art project for the tennis shack at Oakland Park. Each year a side of the shack, which is located on the grounds of the tennis court on the corner of Grove and Oakland Avenues, will be dedicated to a season of the year. The individual tiles that comprise the murals will be created by community members and will be placed on the shack. The projected total cost is \$8500 over 4 years. Each participant will be charged \$25 for each tile to cover the cost of the clay. There will be some costs involved in firing the clay. Linda will donate her time to supervise the project. Once the project is underway, there will be opportunity to solicit sponsors. Those present express approval for the project. Linda will be presenting this idea to Borough Council at their next meeting in order to secure permission to use the Borough owned shed.
- Electric Sign: Ron Grayzel reported that the Borough now owns a portable electric sign on which announcements can be programmed. It may be possible for the Arts Council to use it to advertise programs.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM with Grace Shackney moving the motion and Carolyn Hemming seconding.

Next Arts Council meeting is Monday, November 25, 2013 at 8:00 p.m. in Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted by:
Terry Kohl