

METUCHEN ARTS COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES, JULY 27, 2015

Chairperson Grace Shackney called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm. Those present were John Sharp, Cathy Tardosky, Ron Gryzel, Bob Diken, Steve Reuter, Nancy Goldberg, Ed Wetzal and Carolyn Hamming.

Chairperson Grace Shackney invoked the Sunshine Laws opening the meeting to the public.

SWARING IN OF NEW ARTS COUNCIL MEMBER

Ron Gryzel swore in Robert Diken as a new member of the Arts Council. He was warmly welcomed by all present.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the June 22, 2015 were discussed. There were no additions or corrections other than the correction of the spelling of John Sharp's name.

REPORTS:

- Community Mural: Grace reported for Linda LaStella that the "Fall" section of the Community Mural is almost finished. When Autumn is up, there will be the official unveiling for the community.
- METUCHEN ROCKS! Summer Concert Series: Grace reported on the bands for the Metuchen Rocks series, which will be held outdoors at the Senior Center. Everyone is set to go. August 6 is Big Nancy & the Supreme Court; August 13 the Gripweeds; August 20 The Spider Monkeys and August 27 King Django.
- Carolyn Hemming is running the bus trip to the NY Botanical Garden to see the Frida Kahlo show and then to Arthur Ave. So far 35 seats have been sold for the trip on Sept. 16th at \$44 per person.
- The Gallery Walk will be in the fall, but no date has been set. The Gallery coordinators will work on copy for a new updated brochure. The Arts Council will pay for the printing.
- Family Arts "Sunflower Series" continues on August 5<sup>th</sup> with a concert with Mr. Ray.
- Singer/Songwriter Series: Grace Shackney reported that the most recent Songwriters Series had approximately 35 in attendance. The Arts Council paid for the use of the Old Franklin School. The monies taken in at the door, Sharon Goldman distributes to the musicians. The next event in this series will be September 19th. Sharon will also be organizing a benefit for the Old Franklin School, since they are in need of new air conditioning.
- Nancy Goldberg mentioned that Pop Warner will be showing the movie "Home" on Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>. She will look into how they were able to get advertising space at the train station.
- Jazzfest: Carolyn Hemming mentioned that the musicians have been lined up or the

free jazz fest on Sep. 19th at 3:00 p.m. outside of Borough hall. More details to follow. This is the same day as St. Luke's gallery opening that afternoon and the Singer/Songwriter performance at the Old Franklin School later the evening. Some cross-promotion is called for.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- Grace presented Bob Diken a ceramic tile as thanks for his participation in Art in the Garden. The tile was created by Linda LaStella and was given to each of the gardeners in the tour. Bob will be chairing the event next year.
- Ed Wetzel mentioned the possibility of honoring artist Julie Hart Beers Kempson, who lived in Metuchen, as was part of the group of artists known as the Hudson River School. Ed suggested having a "plein air" exhibition/workshop in the spring.
- Grace Shackney proposed forming a Nominating Committee to create a ballot of officers for 2016.
- Grace also proposed that we look into getting some kind of signage for the front of Borough Hall for when we have a gallery opening or other events. (Perhaps, a sandwich board.)

#### OLD BUSINESS

- Website Development: Rob Diken spoke with a website developer about what it would take to have someone develop an Arts Council website. Grace suggested he speak with Henry Chang who was familiar with the research that was done in the past. She will try to arrange for them to get together.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Danny Adlerman will be holding an Open Mic at the Old Franklin School as a benefit for Roman Tagger, who is a victim of a hit and run. There will also be a benefit August 8<sup>th</sup>, details to follow. Ed has been in contact with Bill Seccomb with the planning of a jazz/figure drawing evening as a benefit for Roman. The tentative date is Sept. 18th.
- **THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ARTS COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2015.**

Meet was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Submitted by  
Carolyn Hamming  
In the absence of Secretary Terry Kohl