METUCHEN ARTS COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 23, 2015

Chairperson Grace Shackney called the meeting to order at 8 p.m. In attendance were Lori DeLoite (visiting), Cathy Tardosky, Henry Chang, Kate Massey (visiting, Family Arts), Bob Diken, Linda LaStella, Dottie Winhold, Steve Reuter, Ron Grayzel, John Sharp, Edward Wetzel, and Elizabeth Palletto.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:
Grace Shackney motioned to accept the minutes of the meeting held on October 26, 2016. The motion was seconded and approved by all present.

NEW BUSINESS:
Kate Massey reported on the Family Arts concerts, and outlined the upcoming winter schedule. Ticket prices were raised $1, and are now $5. Kate is hopeful that the winter shows will be well attended, and said that they are bringing some bigger names that will cost a little more money. She asked for the Arts Council support for the 2016 season. A motion was made by Dottie Winhold to give $500. In 2016 to the Family Arts Concerts, and Bob Diken seconded.

REPORTS:

- FAMILY ARTS: Kate Massey reported on the Family Arts concerts, and outlined the upcoming winter schedule. Ticket prices are being raised $1, and are now $5. Kate is hopeful that the winter shows will be well attended, and said that they are bringing some bigger names that will cost a little more money. She asked for the Arts Council support of $500 for the 2016 season. A motion was made by Dottie Winhold to give $500 to Family Arts to help pay for performers' fees for the 2016 Family Arts Concerts. Bob Diken seconded the motion. All in attendance approved the motion. The winter concert dates are:
    - December 20th – (Danny Alderman and Yosi)
    - February 14th – ("A Squirrel Stoll My Underpants" a puppet show)
    - March 6th – (Barry Korol)

- ARTS COUNCIL WEBSITE: Linda LaStella, Claire Mcclanahan, Bob Diken, Henry Chang and Elizabeth Pallitto have been working on web development for the Arts Council's website, and Linda showed the work that they have done so far using a free Weebly template. There was discussion of the lists of artists that are linked under each heading, and Grace spoke about Jennifer Meyers' concern about including individual artists and their studios. It was decided that the lists can be posted on another local arts site. Bob stated that it will cost $120 a year for the domain name and up-grade on Weebly. He asked that each Arts Council member submit to him a short bio and photo to be included on the website.

- COMMUNITY MURAL INSTALLATION: Linda talked about the installation of the second wall of the mural, and noted that it will be completed shortly after more grout is applied. Grace said that Mayor Valhalla will be present for the ribbon-cutting ceremony,

even though it will be after he leaves office. We will look to schedule a ceremony just before the workshops start up in March for the "Winter" wall section. Nancy Goldberg nominated the project for a State recreation project award and will know before March if the project will be recognized.

- GALLERY BROSHURE: Linda LaStella reported the hold up with the Gallery Brochure has been straightened out, and it should be ready very soon.
- ROTUNDA GALLERY: The next two receptions for the Rotunda Gallery are
    - December 13 – Artists: Kathleen McKeown and Evan Robbins (art teachers from the Metuchen Public Schools) and Pattie Ackerson (from St. Francis) and Wanda Lei (from Little Fish Studios); The Annex will have work from Campbell School Students.
    - January 10 – Artist: Diane Savona; the Annex will have work from Metuchen High School Students.
- BUS TRIP: Tentative date for the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra bus trip is Thursday, March 17. Judy Yin-Chi Lee organized the trip, consisting of a tour of the Newark Museum, lunch, and a concert by the NJSO at NJPAC, and the cost will be $95.
- N.J SYMPHONY WINTER CONCERT: Judy Yin-Chi Lee is also working on dates for a winter family concert at Metuchen High School in February or March.
- The Songwriter Series continues with Sharon Goldman in 2016 on February 27, April 16, July 30 and November 4th. Performances will again take place at the Old Franklin School in cooperation with the Borough Improvement League.
- ART IN THE GARDEN TOUR 2016: Bob Diken reported that he has four gardens so far for the Garden Tour, and talked about posting an ad for an additional garden. He asked for help from the Council members to identify perspective gardens for the tour.
- HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL ARTIST PROJECT: Ed Wetzel reported that he and Carolyn Hemming are still in the research phase of this project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Arts Council's holiday gathering is scheduled for December 11th at home of Carolyn Heming.
- **The next Arts Council meeting is January 25, 2016.**

All business being completed the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Tardosky