

Swanton Arts Council

October 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Present: Joanne Parah Reiter, Cyl Connelly, Michelle Nordberg, Bona Sylva, David Winchester, Roxanne Skeels, Judy Paxman

Closed Team Dinner Social and Meeting. Gathered at 6pm for dinner. Meeting began officially at 7:07pm.

Discussion Points:

The **minutes** for SAC's September 12, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved with the following edits:

- Document the motion to approve prior meeting minutes included those drafted for 8-8-22.
- Add the Youth/Adult Barn Quilt Coloring Contest winners that were on the list of approved governing body nominations. (Motion by Michelle, 2nd by Roxy)

Secretary Duties - Bona expressed interest in learning more about the role and its responsibilities. She will be working with the Library to gain computer skills and comfort. Taking meeting minutes, managing email, and distributing communications are common. Recommended Bona review a list of secretary duties and other administrative needs that Janet Dimick previously prepared to identify areas of interest to explore. All directors will happily assist Bona as she becomes more familiar and engaged.

Van Joe Recommendation Letter - Judy drafted a letter and copied to Michelle for finalizing for the next meeting.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) Statement - Cyl leading the effort and crafted a first draft. Michelle offered revision recommendations. Statement discussed and unanimously approved (Motion by Michelle, 2nd by Dave) with two noted revision: 1) Omit "everything we do" and add "more" to the last sentence for "We are a more dynamic force". Michelle will add to SAC's website and add to the list of bylaw edits needed.

YOUR Voice is Valued at SAC

The Swanton Arts Council celebrates inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility. We embrace all who desire to contribute to the arts. Being human, we acknowledge unconscious bias and understand that there are those who have been historically underrepresented and/or marginalized. We believe each person's individuality is vital to the well-being and vibrancy of our community's culture. We respect our diverse backgrounds and promote an environment that nurtures our unique talents and skills to ensure all voices are valued and heard. We are committed to a non-discriminatory approach to provide equal opportunity for diverse individuals and groups, and to support programming that is non-discriminatory and equally accessible. We are a dynamic force for the Arts when we come together to create, learn, listen, and brainstorm with consideration and respect.

Edwin Church Award 2022 - Judy advised she is ready to launch this year's annual writing competition. Donor offered an additional submission challenge: \$1000 donation to continue this annual activity IF 10+ contest submissions are entered. Unanimously approved (Motion by Michelle, 2nd by Cyl) Judy to lead the project and move forward with the press release.

Halloween in the Park - October 29th at 5pm. Michelle purchased candy for the event, which is with Jo. Previously approved extra sketchbooks as prizes to creatively dressed youth. All are interested in creating a SAC presence at this annual event, except Michelle who will not be in town that day. Participants will connect to coordinate. Roxy offered decorations, Cyl offered a tent. Some will help with setup, recommended around 2pm. Some will help with handing out candy. Some may consider individual costumes.

Bona Craft Ideas - Bona shared examples of three incredibly crafted projects. All were impressed and encouraged her to pursue and share widely. Judy recommended these would be perfect for Take & Make kits. Recommended Bona connect with the Library and/or Rec Dept to coordinate and disseminate. Invited Bona to let SAC know if she needed funds or materials to complete her kits.

Annual Meeting and Elections - Scheduled for December 5, 2022 as its last meeting for 2022. Michelle to publish notice on website. Current election interest includes:

- Yes = Bona, Cyl
- No = Jo, Judy, and Michelle (preferring to serve on committees only if permitted)
- Undecided = Roxy,
- Termed Out for at least 1 year = Dave
- Directors are encouraged to reach out to community members and leads who may have interest.
- Need list of director nominations by November 18th to be on the ballot.

Governing Body Nominations - Need to finalize governing body list and contact information for email notifications. Time is essential to ensure a complete governing body list for annual elections voting. Cyl to contact nominees to notify them of our recognition of their impact on the arts and request their acceptance of rights and responsibilities. Cyl's availability is limited until mid-Oct, Michelle will help with organization and draft and Roxy will assist with communications and tracking. Judy provided a draft list of governing body members with contact information and an example form letter.

Next Meeting and Adjourn -

- Next Meeting = November 7, 2022 at 6pm at the Swanton Library
- Unanimously approved motion (Proposed by Cyl, 2nd by Michelle) to adjourn meeting at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Nordberg

