Swanton Arts Council
February 7, 2022
Meeting Notes

In Attendance - Joanne Parah Reiter, Michelle Nordberg, Priscilla “Cyl” Connelly, David Winchester, Janet Dimick Soavi, Joe “VanJoe” Wolske, Khristian Jackson, Bona Sylva, Roxie Skeels, and Judy Paxman

Guests: Mike Barkyoumb, Scott Martell, and Ali and Jenny Boren, Nancy Fuller

Excused: Lori Decatur, and Faith Dubois

Meeting started at 6:13pm with a round robin of introductions including current mediums working with for the arts

Minutes from Previous Meeting were discussed and accepted as written

Treasurer’s Report – emailed with meeting agenda, Michelle noted the receipt of grants and funds raised. Our current amount is a record for SAC as the highest balance. All taxes and state reports submitted and paid. Michelle made the motion and seconded by Joanne to raise the amount for the February sewing kits from $50 to $75 to cover cost of printing the instructions. So carried.

Michelle made the motion seconded by VanJoe to change the bank signatory authorizations from Heather to Khristian, so carried

Judy brought forward the following art programming –

- Changing from origami roses to frogs for aesthetic purposes
- Requesting $60 for 240 paint brushes to be added to the Maker’s Space – Motion by Michelle, 2nd by Janet, so carried
- 2nd Saturday of the month will be an art class where the library has waived the room fees
- Free Art Classes-
    - Marie Spear $75 for her barn quilt class
    - Youth art nook is restarting – all wall displays will be used and kept at the library
    - Cathy Coulombe $130 for paint instructional Leprechaun
    - Cathy Coulombe $130 for paint instructional Spring Flowers
    - Judy Paxman $40 Thumb print art
    - Janet Dimick Soavi $270 for artboards instructional
    - Judy Paxman $275 Poetry slam
    - Motion made by Michelle, 2nd by Khristian and Joanne to accept all proposals, so carried

SAC Event Signage – further discussion is needed, David, Roxie and Janet to meet to come up with proposal to bring to the board

Judy listed governing body nominations with their qualifying projects, Motioned by Michelle, 2nd by Joanne, so passed

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Mike gave an update on Reflections on Swanton Art Show. Swanton Historical Society agreed to split costs and marketing materials are in process. The historical society has pictures to view for references 1800-1950's. Discussion followed in how to make the photos available electronically.

Town Plan Update – Michelle stated the town plan edit is moving forward, Committee of Cyl, David, Janet, and Michelle formed to create SAC proposal of edits for May 2022

SPAN – Cyl explained that SPAN is also discussing submitting town plan proposed edits for more public art. She asked everyone present to think about joining SPAN on any level and especially the mural program that is in formation as the next project for SPAN. Continuing tailgate parties for spring and fall are planned with a possible winter gathering at David's. More to come.

Cyl spoke of the information collected at SAC's annual meeting in December. SAC received top marks on classes, public spaces and art or art focused events

Jay asked for support of her project Gathering of The Realms. It will be a two-day renaissance faire hopefully held at the recreation fields. Many discussions in process to make it happen.

Judy spoke of the Artist Showcase and sales from December that were held in the library. Price point sales information was gathered as well as types of items that were successful. She recommends that it does not get repeated though as it was not as popular as was hoped. Crafts did not sell well at all, and arts went best with price points from 15$ to $90. Khristian, Bona and Jay will meet to form a committee to discuss jewelry displays as permanent fixtures in the library for future jewelry showing.

Judy has the Art Nook up and running with VanJoe's opening going very well. She ran through the names in order with the explanation that if any artist is not ready for their time slot, they will be allowed to push back a month and the next artist will go ahead of them. Expectations are 2 month shows with nine artists currently signed up.

Judy discussed the Emerging Artist and Youth Art Show. Requests for participants has gone out to the schools. Stay tuned for updates.

Jay requested permission to accept the Milton Artist's Guild invite to join in the second annual raffle. All in favor of continuing with the collaboration. Jay to report back next meeting of progress.

Jay brought up grants. SAC has been invited to submit a full proposal for Animating Infrastructure. She is in discussions with SEP, SAC, the Rec, Fast Food Sunday and the Farmer's market coordinators to fill in the needed information. She also expressed the fit for SAV and the SPARK grant. No apparent interest for this round.

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Items tabled until next meeting:

- SAC Calendar planning (All)
- SAC Committees discussion (All)
- Distribution of responsibilities (Jay)

Informational & Artist Opportunities

Art Journaling - 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6pm in the library
Knitting Circle - every Monday from 2-4pm at the library
New Crochet Group AKA The Knotty Hookers - every Wednesday from 4-6pm at the library
Writers' Group - 3rd Thursday of each month at 6pm at the library
Artist Grant - The Vermont Arts Council is now accepting applications for its annual Creation Grant. Creation Grants support the creation of new work by Vermont artists. Creation Grants can fund time, materials, some equipment costs, and space rental for artists and artist groups. The grant amount for this program is $4,000 per award. Application deadline April 4, 2022.
Paint on Slate Social – January's painting social moved to February 27, 2022, due to winter weather conditions. Please join hostess Janet Dimick Soavi as she walks you through creating Winter's Red on slate and enjoy some social time with friends and community members. Limited space available, sigh up through Swanton Public Library. $25 per person in advance.