

Swanton Arts Council
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2016
Swanton Public Library

Attendees: Scott Rheaume, Judy Paxman, Sara Hayes, Becky Rupp, Nicole Gadouas, Marie Speer, Mike Barkyoub, Katie Foster, Nancy Fuller, Kris Daignault, Joanne Parah Reiter, Heather Buczkowski.

Meeting Leader: Scott Rheaume
Recording Secretary: Becky Rupp

Requests for additions to the agenda:

- Judy Paxman asked to add a discussion of a possible arts festival.
- Nicole Gadouas asked to add information about the SACA Artists' Mixer in St. Albans on September 29.
- Kris Daignault asked to add an account of his work with Jessica Pelkey on establishing an open artist's studio to be held once a month.
- Judy suggested that time be made for Mike Barkyoub to discuss his recent art video.

It was suggested and unanimously approved that Judy Paxman's name be added to the list of people thanked for their service on the previous SAC Board in the minutes of the meeting held on 6/30/2016. With this addendum, the minutes were approved. Motion made by Nicole Gadouas, seconded by Kris Daignault.

Focus of the Board:

- The current mission and vision statements were reviewed. No changes were suggested.
- Heather Buczkowski proposed that the SAC sponsor more art classes led by paid artists. Such classes might mesh well with the "Meet My Medium" video project.
- Kris Daignault proposed an increased concentration on music projects and programs, with the help of Ethan Bishop and Lisa Ackel Judge.
- Judy mentioned that the SAC had previously considered establishing a photography group but a group leader was needed in order to move it forward. Becky Rupp will put out a call on Facebook for people interested in leading and/or participating in such a group.
- Judy Paxman requested that the board guide the focus of the work being done by the Executive Director to ensure that the major goals of the SAC get the appropriate attention. To assist her in her role, she requests that the SAC Board make the following priorities:
 - Read all SAC board updates in a timely manner. All attempts will be made to keep email updates to one per week.

Approved 10-10-2016

- Board members should be available for Board meetings when possible.
- Board members should understand where to find information on the SAC website.

Judy, in the past, has been creating SAC meeting agendas. Usually this task falls to the meeting chair, though Judy will check the existing SAC by-laws. Nicole Gadouas offered to create the agendas, with input from others.

- Becky Rupp and Kris Daignault offered to take responsibility for updating the SAC Facebook page, with help from Katie Foster and Heather Buczkowski.
- Judy will show Nicole how to use Tockify to maintain the SAC website events calendar.

Finances:

- Marie Speer presented the Treasurer's Report which was approved by the Board. Motion made by Judy Paxman, seconded by Scott Rheaume.
- Kris Daignault will investigate creating Cube and/or Paypal accounts for the SAC to facilitate donations. These will be accessible on the SAC website.
- Becky Rupp described possible grants available from the Vermont Arts Council, the Vermont Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Awesome Foundation.
- Judy Paxman described the progress of the SAC's application for 501c(3) status. Marie Speer will contact Sarah Mutrux at the Vermont Arts Council to discuss the pros and cons of proceeding with this. Members of a proposed 501c(3) subcommittee are Judy Paxman, Kris Daignault, Joanne Reiter, Nicole Gadouas, Sara Hayes, Marie Speer, and Katie Foster.
- Joanne Reiter will review the SAC's current insurance policy.

Programs, Opportunities, and Concerns:

- Kris Daignault will pick up the SAC's art walls from the Depot Museum and deliver them to our storage area in the Teen Center.
- Heather Buczkowski pointed out that the ability to display and sell artwork would inspire local artists. She is interested in co-running a venue with photos and displays of artists' work at the library. Members of a subcommittee on the topic of "Selling Your Artwork" are Heather Buczkowski (leader), Becky Rupp, Sara Hayes, Judy Paxman, Katie Foster, Marie Speer, Mike Barkyoumb, Nicole Gadouas, Nancy Fuller, Scott Rheaume, and Kris Daignault.
- The Makerspace, a joint project with the Swanton Public Library, needs organization, implementation, and decision-making. With the help of Jamie Dodd, the SAC now has Makerspace storage space at the Teen Center, as well as a kitchenette/closet area on the lower floor of the library. However, to be effective, the Makerspace needs organization, an updated inventory, and procedures in place for access and sharing. Nicole Gadouas suggested that designated times be established for Makerspace use; Katie Foster suggested an introductory course for Makerspace users and sign-up sheets. Makerspace subcommittee members are Heather Buczkowski (leader),

Becky Rupp, Sara Hayes, Joanne Reiter, Kris Daignault, and Judy Paxman. Becky Rupp and Judy Paxman will discuss the Makerspace at the library board meeting on 9-14-2016.

- A motion was made by Judy and seconded by Becky for reimbursement for the \$25 registration fee for Northwest Nightmares.
- The SAC will be participating in Swanton's Halloween in the Park, for which there will be a planning meeting on September 19. Sara Hayes will run a costume photo booth at the library; and the SAC is planning a chicken-wire ghost project, spearheaded by Anita Michele Parah. Becky and Judy will arrange for the SAC's Northwest Nightmares video to be shown at the public library as an SAC fundraiser. Kris will look into the purchase of glow-in-the-dark Halloween paraphernalia, to be sold at a profit as an SAC fundraiser.

A question arose as to the criteria for eligibility for the SAC nominating committee. No resolution was reached and it was decided to clarify this at a later date, via email discussion.

SAC committees and SAC involvement in other community committees were discussed and reviewed.

- Communications Committee: currently spearheaded by Heather Buczkowski. Anyone interested in joining this committee should contact Heather or the SAC email for more information.
- Swanton Beautification Committee: Judy will be withdrawing from this group. Anyone interested in joining this committee should contact Hank Lambert or the SAC email for more information.
- Fundraising Committee: both Heather Buczkowski and Kris Daignault volunteered as chairs. Kris was nominated by Nicole Gadouas; motion seconded by Marie Speer. Judy suggested that the fundraising be subdivided into two different spheres of interest. No resolution reached.
- SAC Publicity Committee: Nicole Gadouas volunteered as chair; Becky Rupp offered to help.
- SAC Membership/Outreach Committee: Joanne Reinter volunteered to serve as chair.
- Swanton Enhancement Project Steering Committee: Scott Rheume and Nicole Gadouas will attend as representatives of the SAC.

A Swanton Writer's Group has been formed, led by Becky Rupp. The organizational meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 20. Becky discussed possible participation in the Nanowrimo (National Novel Writing Month) challenge that takes place annually in November.

Judy Paxman reported on the Dam Ducky Derby, to be held at Marble Mill Park on October 8. She suggested that the SAC invest in a sheet of plywood with circular holes cut at two levels (kid and adult) for duck photos. (The board could then be re-used for other events.) Katie Foster volunteered to donate a large piece of Masonite for this purpose. Heather urged that SAC volunteers paint duck-themed pictures on the town's Art Boards.

The status of the Habitat's mural request was reviewed. Since the Habitat is uncertain as to just what they want, it was decided that Judy Paxman will contact them and suggest re-visiting the project plan in the spring.

SAC Promotion items:

- Nicole Gadouas will explore printing costs for SAC logo T-shirts. Marie Speer suggested collecting orders first, rather than stockpiling T-shirts.
- Judy made a motion for purchasing SAC business cards, seconded by Becky. It was agreed to purchase 500-1000 one-sided cards featuring the SAC logo, website and email address, and mission statement.

The SAC thanks the following persons and their helpers for projects completed:

- Kris Daignault: Barn Quilt Challenge
- Rebecca Rupp: Sidewalk Chalk Day
- Judy Paxman: National Night Out
- Sam Caswell: Bitter Losses Film Premiere and Fundraiser
- Eris Bushey: MVU Football Team Community Service

Submitted by Becky Rupp
9/13/2016

Approved 10-10-2016