

**LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP**

**ARTS COUNCIL**

MEETING MINUTES

July 5, 2023

**Members**

**Present**

Stan Smith  
Pat Crawford  
Laurie Holmes  
Shellie Echeverria  
Teresa Gonzalez

**Members**

**Absent**

**Also**

**Present**

Rachelle Scott, Staff Liaison  
Jennifer Regina

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Crawford called the regular meeting of the Lower Paxton Township Arts Council to order at 4:00 pm, on the above date in Room 174 of the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No action was taken on meeting minutes.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Ms. Regina has been recommended as a member, so as soon as the Board of Supervisors appoint her she will be a member.

**LIMELIGHT ON LOCAL ARTISTS**  
**ART EXHIBIT at EAST SHORE LIBRARY**

**Schedule**

Ms. Crawford stated that Maria Lagasca sent the tentative schedule for the library exhibit. Ms. Echeverria and Ms. Holmes were fine to leave her artwork in the exhibit till the next display session is set.

**Artwork Submissions**

There have been a few artists that have reached out, so Ms. Scott will direct them to the online submission portal. Members reviewed the photos sent in by one artist who does fabric art or fiber art. They were impressed by it and hope to see it in the April Exhibit. Ms. Scott suggested asking for artwork size or dimensions and Ms. Echeverria suggested instead to provide to the artist the dimensions of the space available and let it up to the artist to

decide what will fit and how best to fill it. She also recommended encouraging the artists to visit the venue in person to get a good sense of it as well.

Ms. Scott requested the Council to lay out a standard reply when an artist is selected, to inform them of things like the next steps required, suggestions for planning their display such as setting up an appointment with Maria Lagasca at the library, preparing their bio if they do not have one already. It will be important for artists to know that they are expected to fill the space. A full display is more exciting and interesting.

Ms. Echeverria stated the artist would need to identify the art that will be selected for display, so they could either indicate which ones on their website portfolio or send a photo of the selections. The Library requires an inventory list.

Ms. Scott asked if the Council wants to invite the artists to a meeting. Members agreed they are welcome to come but it wouldn't be required for selection. Ms. Holmes added that she lives close to the library and is willing to meet them there to help them feel comfortable.

#### Website and Submission Page

Ms. Scott showed on the Arts Council website page where there are links to view the exhibit at the East Shore Library. She will work with Michelle Thompson to add the photo albums of the first event and the future artists can view it nicely there. Ms. Holmes suggested adding some details on the shelves and space in the cabinet.

The edits and updates should be done shortly and a link can be sent to those that reached out so far. Ms. Scott will send the link to the Council members so they can also share as they promote the program.

Ms. Scott asked for suggestions on if an artist had difficulty with the website submission, where maybe they are not computer savvy or don't have a computer. Members offered to help, and suggested using the computers at the library.

#### Potential Artists

Members have not heard back from Donald Barr yet, and there have been three email/text communications, and several members have had contact with potential artists.

#### Next Exhibit: October/November/December 2023

Mr. Smith asked if we could review and provide consensus via email. Because of the Roberts Rules, a vote cannot happen via email, but Ms. Scott was hopeful that there will be some formal submissions in time for the August 2 meeting, and it can be processed and forwarded to the Library by the following week. It is a little late for their schedule for

marketing, but they will try to make it work for this first round. Ms. Scott suggested a special meeting could be scheduled if more time is needed.

### **MOVIE and BOOK SELECTION**

Ms. Scott stated there has been no change to the expectations. A list of movies/books and their descriptions that the Council would like to show must be recommended to the Board of Supervisors to review prior to marketing.

#### **Films**

Ms. Crawford suggested working on this for the next meeting. She would like to include the June movie selection in the list of movies, and a better description might be helpful. Ms. Crawford noted that if the Arts Council wants to show movies that appeal to all different segments of the community, the risk of running into this pushback will appear each time. Mr. Smith would like to address the overall process and not focus on the issue with a particular movie. Ms. Crawford agreed that is the heart of the issue.

Ms. Echeverria suggested working on the list of films, but not selecting a viewing date until things are firmed up with the process. September is Hispanic heritage month, and there is a documentary on Latino music and different influences and growth. Ms. Crawford commented that the documentary on Frida Kahlo was enjoyable but may not be an appropriate Arts Council movie but there are other documentaries that are very interesting and enjoyable, and family friendly.

#### **Books**

Ms. Crawford stated that the book selection has been done by the group for six times a year for many years, and it hasn't been a problem or anything that drew negative attention to the Township. Literature is very often written about a drama or conflict, some have language that might not be preferential to all. She will revisit the idea that Grace Newsome had suggested some time ago, where the group members just talk about the books they like. As they talk about the books they have read or the type they like to read, she can create a list from that discussion.

Ms. Crawford noted it is difficult sometimes because there are always new releases and the group may be excited to choose a brand new title; making a list of books for the year is stultifying. She is very interested in keeping the Book Discussion group actively going.

### **ARTS COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS**

No other comments were offered.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular Arts Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at 4:00 pm at the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, Room 174.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:03 pm with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Hiner, Recording Secretary