

IN ATTENDANCE: Barbara Bravo, Robert Langdon, Suzanne Bennett, Beth Troxell, Yvonne Rojas-Cowan, Janine Meyer, Katie Cokinos

- Robert got here a bit later. Barbara took notes for the first half of the meeting. Suzanne will send over some documents that need to be added to the notes.
- Art Scene artist profiles
  - To date we have three completed essays: Fay Wood and Malcolm Cecil by Tad Richards, and Linda Montano by Mikhail Horowitz.
  - Pending is an essay by Christina Coulter about Ian Flanagan.
  - Barbara asked Suzanne, who had added possible authors to the Google Doc that Barbara created, to send email addresses. Barbara will continue outreach to authors asking them if they would be willing to write a 600 word essay about a Saugerties artist.
  - Barbara mentioned that Christina Coulter asked about payment either in cash or a trade with an artist that she might write about. She was told that it would be taken up with the board. Everyone agreed that trading with an artist would be up to her and the artist, the board would not take a position. As to payment, Barbara's recollection, based on a previous conversation at a board meeting, was that the commission could not offer money to the writers. The board would like to revisit that in the future and provide a stipend to writers.
  - Everyone is invited to add names of artists to be profiled and writers to the Google Doc who might be willing to write the essay.
- Budget
  - There was a problem with the rollover of unspent 2020 funds. At first we thought it was possible, but Leeanne informed Barbara that the accountant said no. The commission can spend what remains in the account up until Dec. 31, 2020. Barbara said that the commission can early pay for domain renewal (\$170), purchase a retainer contract with Bob Kamp of I Can Do That, Isabel's preferred web designer (\$500), and purchase SSL service for the website (\$127). The website as of this morning was not accessible.
  - Grants: Another possible expenditure, that could be helpful to the commission next year, is looking for grants. Barbara spoke with Kathleen Gray, one of the town's grant writers, about looking for grants on behalf of the commission that were open to municipal agencies. Kathleen said that she does not have experience with art related grants (her expertise is with museums) but she would contact a colleague that has experience to ask for advice. Awaiting a return call.
- Hudson Valley Catskills Cultural Committee
  - Suzanne reported that at the last meeting on Nov. 17 HVCCC had a guest speaker, Adrielle Farr (Addie), Director of the Department of Art & Cultural Affairs, who attended the meeting. Addie spoke about her work in particular Engage Kingston which is part of the Arts & Culture Master Plan. Of particular interest was the Cultural Participation Survey and Community Circles. In depth information can be found at [www.Kingston-ny.gov/artandculturalaffairs](http://www.Kingston-ny.gov/artandculturalaffairs)
  - Addie should be invited as a speaker at a commission meeting to share her experience especially with regard to community outreach and audience participation.
- Social media / website
  - In the budget for next year there is a request for \$1000 in social media. If necessary, we can hire a professional to take care of social media, pay for ads and boosts on FB.
  - Patrick Wadden will be coming to discuss the Tidewater Center project. How do we help them since we are still in the formation stage ourselves?
    - Website and social media promotion
    - Tidewater Center will be listed as a resource on the website
  - Suzanne had some issues accessing the website. Website needed SSL (a security program that protects the website from being hacked - cost is \$127. Authorized by Barbara)
  - Barbara and Isabel have been in touch with website team. Yvonne should be included more, not less, in the discussions, especially since she is going to be handling Instagram. Barbara will be sending Isabel a message.
  - What is the marketing strategy of social media? We need to figure that out and take advantage of all that is available to us. Let's include Yvonne in the next meeting to discuss social media (what's needed? How often will we post? What are the channels for posting?)
  - It would be good to discuss the overlapping of the commission with other groups in town (town, village, town improvement plan). The Comprehensive Plan is very broad. It's reviewed every five years. Resources can be added as recommendations

- Katie is now acting as President of the Library BOD and found that she has not had the time to focus on the Commission. She is able to attend meetings but would not be able to do much else. Should she step down? Is it OK to have an inactive member on the board? Is it better to have someone who can actively participate? She can come to the monthly meetings but wouldn't be able to develop the arts and education committee. Can Katie act as the liaison between SAC and the Library? Katie needs to let Terri know her involvement.
- As of December 31 Barbara Bravo will be ending her involvement with the commission
- Commission needs to stay alive and not stagnant.

Next meeting is December 18 at 11

- Patrick Walden will join the meeting in December and New Library ED will join in January