

Town of Stowe Arts and Culture Commission

Wednesday, 9 am.

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Don Jones, Loren Polk, Rachel Moore, Seth Soloway, Carrie Simmons, Marty Fried, Beth Liberman, Sara Opel, Aimee Green, Barbara Baraw, Brooke Hailey

Absent:

Visitors Present: Tanya Kateri, Jonah Rabinowitz, Keith Rousseau

Call to Order

Don called the meeting to order and gave a brief overview of the agenda.
January minutes were approved as written.

Visitor Keith Rousseau introduced himself and shared that he is running for school board and would like to reach out to departments to ensure coordination.

Visitor Jonah Rabinowitz, Stowe resident and executive director of River Arts in Morrisville, introduced himself and shared his interest in partnering with Stowe and the SACC for arts advocacy.

New Business

4.1 LIAISON REPORTS

Don summarized SACC needs and a transition to liaison roles for the purpose of staying in touch with arts and culture agencies throughout the community.

- Don reviewed minutes of the Selectboard and highlighted budgetary requests for economic development and community service organizations. Don also mentioned considerable discussion at the Selectboard regarding the school funding increases and this impact on the municipal budget.
Barbara and Rachel briefly discussed proposals regarding the Parker Barn.
- Rachel updated that she will be meeting with Sarah McShane next week to discuss the implementation of arts and culture in the town plan. Carrie added that she and Sarah have worked on the Stowe 2050 campaign and a draft overview is expected around Town Meeting Day.
Carrie also asked the council to share the opportunity to vote for Stowe as one of the best small town arts destinations
- Barb had no updates.
- Sarah had no updates with the schools, but has reached out to various school staff. Brooke, the SACC student rep, offered to work with Sarah. Rachel gave a summary of previous school and SACC or local organization cooperation.
- Loren had no updates.
- Beth acknowledged and expressed gratitude for Jonah's attendance. He gave a brief summary of the resources and activities that are available at River Arts.

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- Carrie shared that the state is engaging in a statewide strategic plan for Vermont State travel campaigns. Aimee offered to support Carrie in this liaison work, and Carrie shared she would like to limit her obligations for working with two liaison roles (Planning and Travel).
- Marty clarified with a list of faith organizations in the community, and the group as a whole discussed what the SACC and faith org relationship may involve. Rachel inquired if the interfaith group might be a better way to connect with the various organizations as a whole. Marty also mentioned that any arts and music events held at various faith organizations would be in newsletters and these might be available to many council members already. Finally, Marty inquired about the limitations of religious events being shared at the SACC. Council members discussed the various ways in which art can be the focus in various cultural or religious expressions.

4.2 MEETING SCHEDULE

Don shared the meeting schedule, showing in person and online meetings dates.

Additional new business was deferred to next month.

Other discussion

The meeting adjourned at 10:01.

Next Meeting will be Wednesday, March 12, 2025 on Zoom and in the library!