



Minutes: May 4, 2023

Northbrook Arts Commission Village of Northbrook

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Laughlin at 7:02pm at Village Hall.

Commissioners Present: Chris Laughlin, Madison Vienna, Rob Sills, Bonnie Siegel, Jerry Block, Kittie Yohe, Ernie Halperin, Karen Mahoney, Joei Shavitz

Commissioners Absent: Bruce Bondy, Eileen Loftus, Al Alvarez, Chris Sheban, Marsha Schwartz, Sharon Moyer

Members of the Public: Michelle Pollina, Philip Shapiro, Wayne Potrue

Minutes Approval

Chairman Laughlin asked the Commissioners to review the April 13, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Block moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Sills. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Hear from the Audience

Wayne Potrue, Philip Shapiro, and Michelle Pollina all expressed interest in potentially joining the Arts Commission. Each audience member introduced themselves and discussed their interest or involvement in art. Chairman Laughlin briefly explained the history and current activities of the Arts Commission.

Finance Report

Liaison Farrell has not received a bank statement since the last meeting therefore the most recent bank statement listed a balance of \$6,284.83. She also mentioned that a payment was made at the end of FY22/23 to the Arts Commission in the amount of roughly \$3,500.

Northbrook Originals

Commissioner Block reported that the Northbrook Originals reception went well with an estimated attendance of 35. Commissioner Halperin spent roughly \$209 on snacks at Sunset Foods. Sunset Foods will invoice the Village. Commissioner Block commented that more desserts would be ideal. Commissioner Sills moved, seconded by Commissioner Halperin to approve a reimbursement of up to \$250 for the Northbrook Originals reception.

Plein Air Photo Event

The Commission discussed potential dates for the photo event this year, whether to move forward with June or July. The Commission determined it may be difficult to get the event up and running for June. The Commission decided to wait until July for the event based on availability of folks to plan. Commissioner Yohe moved, seconded by Commissioner Siegel to approve a budget of up to \$3,000 for the Plein Air Photo Event. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Shermerfest

Commissioners Siegel and Mahoney discussed that last year's Chalk Up budget was too low. The Chalk Up Event bag includes a kneeling pad, sponge and chalk. There are 50 sidewalk squares with one bag per square. Commissioner Shavitz moved, seconded by Commissioner Sills to approve a budget of up to \$600 for the Chalk Up Event budget. Staff liaison Farrell committed Village resources to help edit the poster for this year's event. The poster is needed a day or two ahead of the event.

Chamber Music Series

Commissioner Vienna shared that the first concert on April 30 was an overwhelming success. The audience was very engaged in the participatory portion of the concert. The next concert in May 7.

Other Discussion

Commissioner Siegel mentioned the Grapes on the Green event taking place June 17 in the Village Green. The Park District reached out to Commissioner Siegel about potentially displaying artwork at the event. Commissioners Siegel and Yohe will discuss logistics and potential usage of the display panels.

Commissioner Siegel mentioned that the Leisure Center studio tour contact has changed. Commissioner Yohe mentioned that she is ready to handoff the studio tour as she has been coordinating the event for seven years and the event has really become a Park District event (only two home studios participate.)

Commissioner Block mentioned that the Northbrook Originals reception was very last minute. He would like to set a reception date ahead of time so it takes place closer to the opening of the event.

Commissioner Siegel suggested an online submittal with a deadline for next year's event in which artists submit only one piece of art. Commissioner Block said he needs to have various size pieces to select from due to space constraints.

Commissioner Shavitz mentioned that she worked on a generic postcard for the flamingo Friday kickoff event. Commissioner Siegel will review the postcard content. Staff liaison Farrell will print and distribute the postcard.

Commissioner Siegel mentioned the in-person artist workshops that have been held at the Village Green. The artists have come from all over the country. Chairperson Laughlin mentioned the Prairie Room at TPAC could be a great space for future workshops.

Members of the public asked clarifying questions about some of the events and tasks of the Arts Commission.

Adjournment

Commissioner Yohe moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Block. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

Submitted by
/s/ Madeline Farrell