



Minutes: August 3, 2023

Northbrook Arts Commission Village of Northbrook

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bondy at 7:01pm at Village Hall.

Commissioners Present: Bruce Bondy, Sarah Weinstein, Karen Mahoney, Marsha Schwartz, Rob Sills, Joei Shavitz, Madison Vienna, Bonnie Siegel, Kittie Yohe, Ernie Halperin, Eileen Loftus, Chris Sheban, Jerry Block, Al Alvarez

Commissioners Absent: Chris Laughlin

Members of the Public: Curt Funke, Michelle Pollina, Wayne Potrue

Minutes Approval

Chairman Bondy asked the Commissioners to review the July 6, 2023 meeting minutes for comments or edits. Commissioner Loftus moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Sills. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Hear from the Audience

Curt Funke showed his gratitude to the commission and talked about the 30 pieces of art for the Artist in Residence display at the library. He said that the TotalLink2 Community final exhibit would be sometime in September, but will work on actual date.

Finance Report

Liaison Mkrdichian stated that as of June 30, 2023, the bank statement listed a balance of \$9,430.48.

Plein Air Photo Event Recap

Chairperson Bondy said that expanding the competition outside of Northbrook had a great impact on the success of the Plein Air Festival and hopes to have more younger student entries in the future.

Commissioner Mahoney suggested doing the festival in the winter to possibly have it publicized in schools to get more younger people to be involved. Chairperson Bondy mentioned the possibility of having a mini version of the competition for the winners. He also suggested doing a rotating exhibit video to have it displayed on the channel, monitors in the lobby, and at the Techny Prairie.

Commissioner Loftus said she would check the availability, but it's not likely due to large bookings.

Drum Circle Event Continued Discussion

Commissioner Loftus reached out to Rhythm Revolution to possibly have them be at the last Tuesdays in the Park. But that did not work, and she's trying again for Autumnfest, which is a high-traffic, outdoor event. Chairman Bondy said that the idea was exactly what the Arts Commission was looking for as far as exposure. Commissioner Loftus will check to see John Yost's availability and get back to the commission. The deposit made to Rhythm Revolution so far is \$750, and another \$750 is owed. Everyone agreed to motion this contract.

Shermerfest/ Chalk Up Northbrook

Commissioner Mahoney said the supplies were ready for the event and just need assembling. She mentioned large posters for the event, which Liaison Mkrdichian will work on. Chalk Up Northbrook will be held at the Village Green during Shermerfest on October 1st. This event is for children under 12.

Announcements & Discussion

Chairperson Bondy has invited award-winning artist, Brian Sindler to do a similar event to the successful evening with Watercolorist, Ken Call. The event is looking to be held early next year in the winter months.

Commissioners Siegel and Yohe visited Kenosha Public Museum for the 47-water exhibit and saw Ken's work. They were impressed by what they saw and mentioned that he had received a prize for his work.

Commissioner Schwartz mentioned she's on the board of Northbrook symphony, and they have a concert coming up on September 10 for \$25 per family. The concert is being held at the big auditorium in Glenbrook North High School.

Former Liaison Farrell informed the commission that the Annual Family Dinner will be held on Thursday, November 2, 2023. All invitations to come at the end of the month. It was noted that this dinner would be held on the same day as the Arts Commission Meeting.

In a discussion to bring more Art to the community in different ways, jewelry and mosaic art were brought up as options. Michelle Pollina said she works with glass and mentioned how kids enjoy the bins and polished pebbles. She mentioned the idea of doing an Art Ecology class for kids consisting of sticks, pebbles, etc. She will jot down some more ideas and bring them to the Arts Commission. Chairman welcomed her ideas and thoughts.

Curt Funke mentioned looking at possible murals to have community involvement with all families that support Total link2 painting directly on the side of a bridge, park, mail box, etc. He also asked about the Northbrook Artist Studio Tours, and commissioner Yohe said there was low participation and eventually the event burned out. If it happens again, it is possible to showcase the work at the Leisure Center. Commissioner Loftus said the Art classes at the park district have been growing, but doesn't have a leader year. Hopefully sometime in the future.

Commissioner Sills is having a show at the North Suburban YMCA throughout September and will have an Artist's Reception for anyone to come. Opening day is on September 17th.

Chairman Bondy mentioned possibly doing a joint Halloween event with the Park District. Commissioner Loftus said all advertisements are almost done, but that they'll be happy to try something if the Arts commission takes the lead. They're focusing their efforts on the Autumn Fest, but happy to partner up and promote.

Commissioner Weinstein wants to sell her art piece and has her own business called I Just Am.

Commissioner Siegel announced that Lake Geneva's Art in the Park will be held on August 12 & 13.

Adjournment

Commissioner Halperin moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Yohe. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:14pm.

Submitted by

/s/ Inana Mkrdichian