GLASS TOWN CULTURAL DISTRICT STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES: JANUARY 19, 2022
LOCATION: via Zoom, hosted by Sandwich Public Library
3:30 P.M.

Present: Katie Campbell, Charleen Johnson, Paula Johnson, Joanne Lamothe, Jeanne Prendergast, Diane Scharf, Rob Vinciguerra, Ralph Vitacco
Absent: Lee Repetto, Anne Scott-Putney
Guest: Mary McKenna

Call to Order: Chair Jeanne Prendergast called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of December 15, 2021 Meeting:
Motion to approve: Joanne Lamothe; seconded: Katie Campbell; in favor:
Charleen Johnson, Paula Johnson, Jeanne Prendergast, Rob Vinciguerra, Ralph Vitacco; motion passed.

Financials: Funds held by Town:
General funds $ 95.00

Friends Account:
Balance as of 12/15/21 2,932.17
Income:
Bank interest .02
Sale of paperweights – 1,122.50
Income Earned This Period 1,122.52
Total Income 4,054.69

Expenses:
M. Magyar – 50 paperweights
@ $25 each 1,250.00
Balance as of 1/19/22, Friends Acct 2,804.69

Total, Combined Accounts $ 2,899.69

Report on Obelisk Paperweight Sales and Payment to Michael Magyar:
Charleen reported:
We ordered 50 obelisk paperweights at a cost of $25 each.
Michael was paid in full on January 17, 2022 ($1,250)
To date we have sold 44 at $40 each = $1,760
We gave one free to Michael.
The remaining 5 are being delivered to The Spotted Cod 1/20/22 to fill back orders.
Net profit, including back orders: $712.50 (includes one tax collection of $2.50).
Michael has suggested we place an order with him for 25 to have on hand. These can be placed at The Spotted Cod, the Chamber, Heritage Museums in the Spring and also in Michael’s gallery. Katie Campbell made a motion that we have Michael make the additional 25, seconded by Rob Vinciguerra, approved by all in attendance; motion passed. The cost remains the same: $25 per paperweight.

Michael also requested he be given permission to make an additional 10 to give to other artists who assisted him in this project by providing glass shards. They would be numbered 190-200, at the end of our Limited Edition. They would not cost us anything. Katie Campbell made a motion that we allow Michael Magyar to make these additional 10 paperweights, limited edition #190-200, for distribution to fellow artists. The motion was seconded by Rob Vinciguerra, approved by all in attendance. Motion passed.

**Update – MCC Cultural District Grant Application:**
Joanne reported that she was notified that we have been awarded $7500. The formal letter of notification has not yet been received. The funds will appear in the Town’s account.

**Housekeeping items:**
Town Annual Report - Jeanne is working on the GTCD section for the Town’s Annual Report, highlighting the obelisk project. Katie Campbell suggested including information on the new Welcome banners. Diane Scharf suggested mentioning the Shop Sandwich First event held at the Sagamore Inn as well. Rob Vinciguerra is gathering photos of the obelisk installation for future use. Ralph Vitacco suggested we try to get one of the photos used as the front cover for the Town’s Annual Report. Jeanne asked Ralph to carry that suggestion out. Rob will provide Ralph with a selection of photos to take with him. Paula Johnson will put a photo up on our website. Jeanne will send copies of all the photos to the committee so that they can see them as well.

Chamber’s 2022 Summer Guide – Denise Dever has inquired whether we would like to submit a couple pages about the GTCD for the 2022 Summer Guide. All committee members felt it would be desirable. Paula doesn’t think there is any cost involved. Jeanne will contact Denise.

**Brainstorming New Projects:**
Jeanne reminded the committee that we have been granted $7500 from the Mass Cultural Council. It states in the application that we will collaborate with the Recreation Department.

Suggestions made during brainstorming session:

1. **Jeanne:** Educational outreach focused on the obelisk sculpture. Adults – partner with another group i.e. Sandwich Arts Alliance in a “meet the artists event”?

   Kids – school curriculum – history class (third grade perhaps) – one project for each school. High school: a Masters class with Michael Magyar. GTCD would serve as host.
2. Jeanne: GTCD host a meeting between GTCD and the Preservation Trust, the Historic Committee, and the Town on the future of historic buildings in Sandwich.

3. Charleen: A history event (Sandwich: Cape Cod’s Oldest and “Glass-iest” Town) whereby residents, with “passports,” would visit various glass-related sites in town: site of original glass factory and surrounding area where homes had been built by the factory for its employees, Michael Magyar’s gallery where they would learn about glass blowing and perhaps see individual giants lit for the event, visit to the obelisk itself, ending at the Glass Museum. At each point, their passport would get “punched.” Each family completing the circuit would receive a miniature obelisk for completing the tour.

Charleen also suggested revisiting the solar-driven, glass clouds/steel tree sculpture project suggested by Alaina Mahoney of Providence during our prior search. It would look great on the Library’s lawn.

4. Katie Campbell suggested hosting an artist zoom panel, inviting other cultural districts to participate, to discuss achievements of each.

Katie also suggested participating in Sandwich’s 2022 Sandwich Fest event with a booth, focusing on the obelisk: boards illustrating how it was made, etc. and perhaps, as an attention getter, an activity for children centered around making “obelisk cookies with colored sprinkles.”

She also suggested we consider, for next Christmas, designing a “Come to Sandwich Advent Calendar,” with the object being to bring visitors to Sandwich, visiting a different site in Sandwich for each of the 25 days - or doing a calendar for the 12 days of Christmas.

Another suggestion by Katie: storytelling – once a month – featuring professional storytellers, perhaps at the Town Hall.

Ralph built on this idea, suggesting storyboards: have people come in and tell their story.

It was suggested that these could be done on tape as well as live.

5. Diane Scharf suggested considering something that we could present to the Town for the new Town Hall.

Katie suggested we consider a “town quilt,” asking various organizations to do a square, depicting the story they would like to tell. We would then have it put together professionally and could present it to either the new Town Hall or the new Center for Active Living. At Jeanne’s inquisition, all committee members emphatically indicated they DO want to continue with public art in some way and thought the quill idea was a great idea. It’s storytelling, historic and multi-participatory.
Guest Mary McKenna suggested we consider adding “satellite locations” to our district. She is involved with the Winchester Cultural District and they utilize six satellite locations and find it very helpful. This would solve our problem of whether places are in or out of our district i.e. Town Hall, the Center for Active Living.

6. Joanne Lamothe suggested we also take into consideration the new Center for Active Living – presenting them with a piece of art.

Joanne also mentioned that the Trustees of the Sandwich Public Library would like the GTCD committee to consider the Library as a permanent site for possible future art projects.

7. Jeanne suggested we consider collaborating with other organizations rather than shouldering events by ourself. Suggested: Sandwich Reads Together. Joanne Lamothe will let us know more about this event.

8. Ralph Vitacco suggested piggybacking on the Boston Tea Party’s event in which we could build on our cemetery event by including one of the deceased BTP participants who is buried in our cemetery.

Jeanne suggested we give these suggestions thought over the next month and we will discuss them further at our meeting in February. Jeanne will send a summary of the suggestions to all committee members.

Jeanne will also send an email to Mary McKenna, thanking her for joining our meeting.

After discussion, it was decided our February 16 meeting will be held via zoom as an extra precaution because of the prevalence of the Covid virus at this time.

There being no further business to attend to, Ralph Vitacco made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Rob Vinciguerra; all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charleen L. Johnson
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Secretary