

VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK ARTS COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 1, 2021

via Zoom

1. Attendees:

- a. *Members:* Melinda Buie, Heather Capelle, Larry Cohen, Jane Dorian, Marina Kiriakou, Jacqueline Meier, Elizabeth O'Rourke, Violet Useda-Linder, Carrie Vaccaro Nelkin
- b. *Volunteers:* Chari Allison, Robin Campbell, Solange De Santis, Melissa Moak, Joyce Marie Washburn (by phone)
- c. *Village of Mamaroneck/Westchester County:* Nora Lucas

2. Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Dorian and seconded by Useda-Linder.

3. The February meeting minutes were reviewed. Buie made a motion to accept and Kiriakou seconded.

4. Welcome: New Council member Heather Capelle was welcomed.

5. Poetry Live!: Dorian and Kiriakou have received the first batch of poems from participating schools. Submissions will be open for the next three weeks. The event will be covered live on Zoom by LMC-TV on April 25 at 2:30 p.m. for family and friends of the poets and for the Arts Council. It will include an honor to the life and legacy of Mary Louise Cox, poet laureate of Mamaroneck and founder of Poetry Live!, who passed away on February 17. Kiriakou will shepherd the accompanying print anthology through production. Allison asked if a new town/village poet laureate will be chosen, and suggested the Arts Council might want to approach the Board of Trustees with the idea.

6. Honoring Mary Louise Cox: De Santis spoke movingly of Mary Louise Cox's life and legacy, including her influence on more than a thousand students through Poetry Live! De Santis suggested installing a memorial bench, at a cost of roughly \$1,600, outside the Library, as a tribute to the ongoing support Ms. Cox and her husband Fred Rosenberg gave to the Library. De Santis has ascertained from Clerk-Treasurer A. Fusco that this is feasible. O'Rourke asked if the bench plaque could be large enough to accommodate a line of Ms. Cox's poetry. Kiriakou mentioned that if the bench and plaque can be installed quickly enough, they can be commemorated during Poetry Live! Lucas stated the effort can be requested from the Board of Trustees. A vote was taken on the request; all were in favor. De Santis and Kiriakou agreed to draft a letter to the BOT.

7. Arts 'n Eats: In the next few weeks, (a) Useda-Linder will deliver a Call for Artists to the Mamaroneck Artists Guild and Rye Arts Center so that interested artists can apply for the fall part of the event by June 15, and (b) two or more committee members will approach restaurants to cement interest in participating in the fall event. Kiriakou is finalizing a graphics package that includes, among other things, application forms for both artists and eateries. She reported that the spring part of the event (a series of interviews with local chefs on LMC-TV) is set to begin with two five-minute segments in April.

8. VOMart Tote Bags: Meier reported she found a vendor that can produce the bags. She has already procured the print screen that will be used for the logo.

9. Summer Update:

- Essential Workers Tribute—Meier, Cohen, and Allison are to work further on and refine the “living circle of trees” concept, starting with Meier contacting the VOM Tree Committee.
- Fireman’s Carnival and Fireworks—Lucas reported both are scheduled to take place this year, per new COVID guidance on outdoor gatherings from Gov. Cuomo.
- Shakespeare Performance in Harbor Island Park—Cohen asked if this can also be done this summer. Lucas pointed out that the social distancing required may detract from the nonamplified performance. Capelle suggested she might know someone who can provide amplification. Cohen is to follow up on the issue.
- 4th of July Concert—Lucas reported J. Pinto of the Recreation Department is investigating square footage requirements and event feasibility. De Santis offered to look into whether rehearsals can be held in the courtroom. Lucas reminded all that feasibility will be based on the Governor’s guidelines.
- Additional Summer Concerts—Depending on Covid’s trajectory, it may be possible to do the summer concert series. The Capitol Theatre in Port Chester, in collaboration with WXPk radio (107.1 The Peak), has shown interest in working with the Village and the Council on this.
- Concrete-Barrier Decoration—A lively discussion took place on how best to execute this public-arts idea. Meier suggested limiting the exterior color scheme to three to present a cohesive look along the Avenue, whereas each restaurant could decorate the interior according to its preferences. Another suggestion was the use of stencils. O’Rourke suggested a Call for Artists, with accompanying guidelines, for the painting of the barriers. Meier said she will send Council members the Call for Artists the Rye Arts Center used for their "Rye'sAbove" butterfly project.

12. Dorian made a motion to end the meeting; Capelle seconded.

13. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.