

VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK ARTS COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 5, 2021

via Zoom

1. Attendees:

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

2. Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Dorian and seconded by O'Rourke.

3. The March meeting minutes were reviewed. Cohen made a motion to accept and Meier seconded.

4. Poetry Live!: Dorian reported that all contributors' poems have been submitted and are being readied for the April 25 event and the anthology. Kiriakou will have 85-plus anthologies printed (cover by Buie), each student poet to receive a copy before the event. O'Rourke will be guest speaker and will read one of her poems. Kiriakou will present a tribute to Mary Louise Cox. Kiriakou and Dorian are coordinating the Zoom event with Dena Schumacher at LMC-TV. Meier proposed that the Library and each Council member receive a copy of the anthology.

5. Mary Louise Cox Memorial Bench and Ceremony: De Santis, Kiriakou, and Allison reported visiting the site chosen for the bench, at the corner of Library Lane and Prospect Avenue. The bench and accompanying plaque will be dedicated on May 7, the ceremony to be covered by LMC-TV. De Santis volunteered to assemble a Powerpoint presentation about the bench, plaque, and tribute for possible use before the dedication. Kiriakou mentioned that Ms. Cox's family will consider funding plantings for the bench area. Also, Kiriakou and Dorian were able to donate much of Ms. Cox's poetry to the Library, which will set up a Poetry Corner in her honor that will also feature some of Ms. Cox's watercolors.

6. Essential Workers Tribute: Meier reported that the corner of Rushmore Avenue and Old Post Road has been chosen as a probable site for the Circle of Trees (8 to 10 trees in a circle, with an explanatory plaque or similar placed at center). The trees can be planted any time this summer. Discussion ensued on how to distinguish the Circle: surround the trees with slate stones or flowers or posts with a loose chain, for example? Allison mentioned the possibility of wrapping the trees; O'Rourke suggested small benches between them, at which point Meier mentioned each bench might represent an essential job. Allison provided a list of trees that do well in salt-water environments. All suggestions to be considered.

7. Barrier Project: Since previous discussions included how to paint the barriers for a unified look, Meier displayed two versions of the "Savor the Avenue" logo from last year's outdoor dining initiative: stenciled green (1) directly on concrete and (2) against a white background. Council members favored

the latter. Meier suggested painting every other barrier, a total of 16, though if placement is not exact the look might still work. She will check with Dan Sarnoff on when barriers will be moved outside. Meanwhile they can be painted in storage. Meier, Buie, and Kiriakou to paint.

7. Arts 'n Eats: (1) Useda-Linder will contact Mamaroneck Artists Guild and Rye Arts Center to see what kind of response they have gotten from the call for artists for the fall festival. (2) Useda-Linder and Nelkin visited restaurants on the list of potential participants to introduce the festival and leave behind information, contact numbers, and an application form. As no responses have come in yet, they are considering how to most effectively follow up. (3) Mercurio's and Roaster's Café will be the first two establishments featured in the spring LMC-TV segments. Kiriakou will be camera person, Mike Witsch of LMC Media will interview, and D. Schumacher of LMC Media will edit. Target to release the first interview is end of April.

8. Mask Quilt: Kiriakou reported the mask quilt is now hanging in the Mamaroneck Library, and was recently featured in Gov. Cuomo's daily Covid communication as a "Deep Breath Moment."

9. Hudson Valley Shakespeare and Other Summer Updates:

- Shakespeare Performance in Harbor Island Park—Cohen has reached out to the associate artistic director and head of education but received no response, and requested another contact from Allison.
- There was a discussion of what can and cannot take place in Harbor Island Park this summer, given Covid restrictions and uncertainties. Meier stated the outdoor concerts and Fireman's Carnival might still be possible, though the Capitol Theatre has pulled out of the large harbor concert they were planning. This led to discussing the feasibility of assembling the St. Thomas orchestra to rehearse for and play in the Fourth of July concert. De Santis stated that getting musicians, some of whom may not be vaccinated, together in a rehearsal space might prove difficult, plus there is a question of the safety of wind instruments releasing aerosols. Meier suggested De Santis gauge the comfort level of the musicians. Kiriakou recommended forming a subcommittee (De Santis, Cohen, Capelle, Allison, Meier) to review these and similar issues (including fireworks logistics and crowd size).

10. VOMart Tote Bags: Meier has procured 100 canvas bags. Washburn and Meier will screenprint them with the Arts Council logo.

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

13. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.