

VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK ARTS COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 4 2022

Via Zoom

1. Attendees:

- a. *Members:* Karla Aber, Astrid Iliana Arias, Jane Dorian, Marina Kiriakou, Cristina Lerchen, Elizabeth O'Rourke,
- b. *Volunteers:* Chari Allison, Larry Cohen
- c. *Village of Mamaroneck / Board of Trustees:* Nora Lucas
- d. *Absent:* Melinda Buie, Michael Norberto, Piper Stevens

2. Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Dorian, seconded by O'Rourke

3. The March meeting minutes were approved. Aber made a motion to accept and O'Rourke seconded.

4. Kiriakou opened the meeting and introduced Michael Collins, the Poet Laureate of the Village and Town of Mamaroneck. Collins said thanks for inviting him and he will listen and learn as the meeting proceeds.

5. Poetry Live: Kiriakou and Dorian reported on Poetry Live! 2022 at the Emelin Theater, March 27th. Kiriakou mentioned that this was the 21st year of Poetry Live! She discussed the "stunning poetry" that the 40 student poets recited to 150 people in the audience. Dorian thanked all the volunteers who helped at the event and showed everyone a copy of the student Anthology. O'Rourke discussed how important it is to have a poetry celebration because poetry "can be a rather solitary art." Lerchen was at the event and said it was so respectful and a privilege to attend. Kiriakou reported that she, Dorian, De Santis, and O'Rourke met to debrief after Poetry Live! and discussed the possibility of a youth poet laureate, or a youth poet society with students from the local high schools.

6. Poetry Garden: Kiriakou reported that the dedication of the Poetry Garden will take place on May 13th at 11 o'clock. The Tortoise sculpture is on its way and Lerchen is working on a children's book, a fable of the tortoise and the hare. She has added activities such as a word search, a maze, a word scramble, etc. Kiriakou said we need a good graphics person, maybe someone at the high school. Dorian said she can contact the public relations person at Mamaroneck High.

7. Concerts at the Harbor and parks: Dorian reported on the Harbor concerts that the Emelin and the Arts Council are jointly producing for the summer. The line-up is: Broadway on the Sound 7/20 (music to appeal to families); Hollis Brown (rock band) August 17th and Flor Bromley, a singer and musician (for children) along with the Brass Queens, both at Columbus Park. Cohen will co-chair Pop Up Concerts and Aber, Kiriakou, Allison and De Santis volunteered to help. Cohen will arrange a meeting with the group to discuss time, music, etc., and Kiriakou said she has set up tentative dates.

8. Film Series and Art Films at the Harbor: Kiriakou reported that Dan Tashman at the Emelin is working as the film curator for an art film at the Harbor. Kiriakou reported that the only dates available are late in August: 25, 26, or 27. Members discussed the possibility of finding another site to show the film and Aber said that she will look for other venues.

10. Metal Sculptures at Harbor Island Park: Kiriakou reported that Buie spoke to Kyle from the Marine Center and Eric Mc Cue, the fabricator in Colorado. Lerchen said that the Council could auction off the sculptures after they were painted by artists. Kiriakou added that the 12 sculptures would be quite expensive. Suggestions were made to research other fabricators. Lucas said she would look at the budget and check our reserves.

11. Artwork at The Regatta: Kiriakou reported for Buie that an artist, Tricia Light, was interested in having her art displayed in the lobby of the Regatta village offices.

12. Marketing Committee: Kiriakou reported that she, Aber, Lerchen and Stevens met to discuss ways to promote the Council and its activities. The more name recognition the Council has, the more people will look forward to our programs. Members discussed promoting the Council's programs with card stock mailers. Allison discussed the expense of past mailings and Lucas said we could hand deliver the promotional mailers, have them at events, and perhaps get help from Rye Neck students who have a service requirement. Lerchen suggested the possibility of information in both English and Spanish.

13. Mamaroneck High School Murals: Lucas discussed the project/fundraiser started by the Historical Society to save the Mamaroneck High School murals. Kiriakou also mentioned a fundraiser for Ukraine that features refugee art. Lerchen volunteered to post information about this initiative on our social media pages.

14. Arts and Crafts Fair: Allison discussed the possibility of incorporating it with the summer concerts, with 10 vendors, in an area as people enter Harbor Island to attend the concert. Members discussed other venues, other dates and sponsoring the winter holiday crafts fair. Allison discussed the possibility of using the Decadent Brewery on Hoyt with vendors in the aisles, tickets sold, lots of parking, etc. Kiriakou and Dorian said they would help with the planning/investigating.

15. Monarch Butterfly Project: Kiriakou reported that the Mamaroneck Committee for the Environment requested our help to raise awareness of the importance of protecting butterfly habitats and attracting bees and pollinators. To raise awareness, the Committee for the Environment would like to promote butterfly murals that people could stand in front of and take photos. Buie volunteered to sketch out a butterfly mural and members discussed ways to promote awareness on Instagram. Lucas also suggested that a portable mural might be used to draw attention and promote practices that support butterflies.

16. Dorian made a motion to end the meeting; O'Rourke seconded.

17. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

The next meeting is Monday, May 2nd .