

Hallowell Arts and Cultural Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 6:00-6:45 PM at Vaughan Homestead
Minutes

Present: Deb Fahy (Chair), Jonathan French (Secretary), Sam Webber, Richard Bostwick, Nancy McGinnis, Kate Tremblay, Julie Horn, Chris Cote, Annemarie Kromhout, Alan Stearns

A. Introductions

The Committee welcomed guests Annemarie Kromhout, Director of the Hubbard Free Library as well as Chris Cote and Alan Stearns.

B. Organizational Updates

The following updates were given to the Committee:

- Gaslight Theater – The Theater will be performing Agatha Christie’s “Spider’s Web” in November and will be performing a series of Maine based plays throughout 2020 to celebrate the bicentennial including two by John Cariani titled “Last Gas” and “Almost, Maine” as well as “Almost Cowgirls” by Valerie Bennett and David Berry’s “The Whales of August.”
- Maine Arts Commission – The Commission has reviewed and scored the first round of grants, with 35 applicants for the \$10,000 grant and 9 applicants for the \$500 grant.
- Vision Hallowell – Vision Hallowell has primarily been working on the Maine Luthiers Showcase as well as developing fundraising strategies and branding. There will be a table for promoting life in Hallowell as part of the Maine Craft Weekend events and activities in the city.
- Old Hallowell Day Committee – The Committee is having a wrap-up meeting on October 21st.
- Vaughan Homestead – The Homestead is looking for volunteers to help with the Day of Caring with Hall-Dale 7th graders on October 10th. There will be a Children’s Diddle Bow Guitar Workshop on October 5th during Maine Craft Weekend and the Annual Fall Gathering is on October 19th. The Homestead is working on a digital exhibit for the bicentennial with an opening reception planned.
- Hubbard Free Library – While the Summer Reading Program has finished there will be a Winter Reading Program from December 17th to February 22nd with a candy theme including a giant Candy Land game setup inside the Library. The library will also have various themes of True Crime in October, Dinosaurs in November and will have a poinsettia sale in December. The Friends of Hubbard will have an auction in December to fundraise for the Library.

- Historic Hallowell Committee – Earle Shettleworth will be giving a presentation on Federal architecture in Hallowell this evening (September 25th) in Hallowell City Hall starting at 6:30 PM. Frank O’Hara will follow that up with a presentation on Hallowell from 1852 to the present day. Both events will conclude the lecture series to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Row House.

C. Hallowell History Mural

Chris Cart will be holding an Open Studio each Thursday from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and also during Maine Craft Weekend.

D. Fire Hydrant Painting for Bicentennial

Alan Stearns briefly presented his idea of the community painting the area hydrants to the Committee but was waiting to develop the idea based on further input from various stakeholders.

Deb volunteered to gather input from the Fire Department, while Richard was going to talk to Code Enforcement. Jonathan will talk with the Hallowell Water District as they are likely the owners of the hydrants.

E. Hallowell Granite Symposium

- An application for the \$10,000 bicentennial grant was submitted and Deb will place the grant applications on the Committee’s Google Drive.
- The Maine Stone Workers Guild wrote a letter in support of the Symposium for the application, but has yet to formally endorse the idea.
- Based on Committee input, the Symposium will be scheduled for September 12 -21 in 2020.
- Kate offered the Vaughan Homestead’s building on Bridge St as housing for the carvers during the Symposium.

F. Sculpture in Residence at Stevens Commons

- Jon Doody needs volunteers for each Saturday in October. Deb will send a schedule to the Committee
- A location still needs to be determined for the placement of the sturgeon sculpture

G. Minutes for the August 28, 2019 Meeting

The minutes were unanimously approved.

H. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will focus on events for the 2020 Bicentennial and will be at the Harlow on October 23rd at 6:00 PM.

Submitted by Jonathan French, Secretary