Hallowell Arts and Cultural Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 27, 2020, 6:00-7:00 PM via Zoom

Minutes

Present: Deb Fahy (Chair), Jonathan French (Secretary), Sam Webber, Malley Weber, Kate Tremblay, Helene Farrar, Gretchen Marion, Judy Skehan, Cary Colwell, Dick Alden, Norman Casas, Andreas von Huene, Richard Bostwick

A. 2020 Granite Symposium

- Deb Fahy said that she met with the Historic Hallowell Committee on Thursday, May 21 and the consensus was that all history exhibits would be online, but there would also be a display at Stevens Commons.
- Chris Cart and Deb Fahy are working on the website for the Symposium and were looking for volunteers to help with formatting, proofreading and suggesting content. Jonathan French and Malley Weber volunteered to help, and Deb said she would share the Google Drive folder with content for the site with them.
- Any content for the website can be sent to Deb or Chris.
- Maine Stone Workers Guild members were planning on looking at the granite source sites as soon as their members could organize a trip.
- Helene Farrar mentioned that she spoke with sculptor Anne Alexander who is willing to teach a class during the Symposium. Helene is also still willing to interview Guild members for the Symposium website.
- Kate Tremblay said that because of COVID-19 concerns, the Vaughan Homestead office would no longer be useable for lodging and that alternate accommodations would be needed. Dick Alden and Norm Casas said that the Guild only needed lodging for two members.

B. Organization Updates

The following updates were provided to the Committee:

- <u>Prospective Arts Center in Hallowell</u>: Malley Weber gave a brief update on her effort to advocate an arts center in Hallowell, with the Second Street Fire Station as an ideal location. She had mentioned that there was growing community support and a group was starting to get organized.

- <u>The Harlow</u>: Gretchen Marion said that the Harlow was deciding what to do about their location at 100 Water Street as the building had been foreclosed on and the bank was allowing the Harlow to stay. However, rent is no longer affordable so there is a need to reconfigure their business model to the appropriate scale. The craft shop has been moved

online and the annual juried art show "Art 2020" will also be online starting on June 1st and will run for three weeks. The Board is meeting on May 28th to figure out what will actually be exhibited this year. Workshops will held both outside and online. The Annual Meeting for the Board was at 6:00 PM on June 3rd via Zoom and members were hoping to get input about the Harlow's future. In addition, a community meeting is also planned for June.

- Gaslight Theater: Richard Bostwick reported that the Theater has postponed all shows until November, with their first show planned to be "Almost, Maine" by John Cariani.

C. Hallowell History Mural by Chris Cart

Chris Cart gave the Committee the following updates:

- Although City buildings are closed, he has been allowed to stay in the old fire station on Second Street to complete the mural.
- He is trying to weave the current pandemic into the mural along with women important to Hallowell's history.
- The completion date will still be Summer 2020 and he will let the Committee know a target date for installation. It will take approximately one week for installation.
- The building ownership is changing, though the mural will be written into the deed. An added dryer vent has caused some changes to the mural.
- Photos of the mural will be added to the Harlow website.
- He has been thinking about putting a series together about the re-design of the mural along with the changes he has made.

D. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be on June 24, 2020 at 6:00 PM via Zoom. The Maine Stone Workers Guild will be invited, and it will be specifically about the 2020 Granite Symposium.

Submitted by Jonathan French, Secretary