

Ridgefield Arts Council Meeting Minutes February 10, 2020
Minutes taken by Hilary Aronow

RAC members in attendance: Mark Meachem, Jennifer DiLaura, Hilary Aronow, Josh Fischer, Chris Sorgie, Paul Gervais, Amy Casey

Excused: Judi Lynch

Guests: Tracey Bryggman, Dani Roth, Andrea Macaluso, Lisa Tancredi, Lily Fertik, Jennifer Dineen, Terrence Mahon, DeeDee Colabella, Pamme Jones, Ann Hermann

MINUTES

Paul made a motion to approve the minutes from the January meeting, Chris seconded it, and all approved with a minor grammatical correction.

TREASURER'S REPORT

\$325 for Make Music Day membership dues has been paid. We received the ECDC contribution of \$100 towards the new banner brackets, which cost \$250 in total. We need to find other sources of funding for Make Music Day-last year the MMD grant was \$1000 and this year it is only \$750. The RAC will work to put together sponsorship packages for MMD.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Generator-the next event is booked for 2/27 at Zoe & Co. Sugarbeads with Andie Schoellkopf and Amy Bock presenting, and a jazz trio from the high school performing. Hilary is gathering bios and will put together and send out the press release.
2. New Potential Art Tenants- the RAC members were excited to learn about two new potential for-profit art businesses that may be opening in town. The first is a pottery/gallery/studio space and the other one is a possible gallery/community space. It's a good sign of continued arts growth in town that people are looking to open creative businesses. John from the ECDC is working with them as well.
3. Make Music Day- Jennifer attended a MMD conference in NY with people from across the country whose towns are participating. The date coincides with Father's Day, Yoga Day and Skateboard America Day-we are working to coordinate with the skate park to include them as a venue for the event. We urgently need a marketing plan now and to raise awareness of the event. We do have some venues lined up and Adam from School of Rock has agreed to help manage the Ballard Park stage sound system again, which worked very well last year. He will also help with artist recruitment. We need to apply for the drum stick, harmonica and song book giveaways and we need to set up events to go with them. The RAC will form a subcommittee for Make Music Day. Some ideas for the day include instrument collection/donation with the Compassion Project, Bash the Trash (making instruments using recycled materials), a drum circle at sunset (beating down the sun), a silent disco and many more.

4. Bow Wow Art Event- Dee Dee Colabella who runs RPAC (Ridgefield Professional Arts Center) presented her plan to have an Art Dog event with fiberglass dogs that are painted/decorated by area artists and placed in key locations. This event will tie in with ROAR with a target date for a parade that coincides with the jazz festival in town. There will be an auction for the dogs at the Aldrich.
5. Scholarship- Mark will contact the high school to let them know there is a 4/15 deadline for applications, Josh will update website with the deadline. Amy will check with Tequila Escape to see if they are willing to host a Guest Bartender night to fundraise for it.
6. Behind the Scenes-booked for 5/14 at the Ridgefield Conservatory of Dance
7. Website/marketing-Judi is working on contact lists, coordinating our list of generator attendees. Our Fall/Winter event posters were popular but we don't currently have funding for a Spring/Summer one.
8. Banners-Mark made a motion to approve the banners for the Aldrich, Jennifer seconded it and all voted unanimously to approve them.

Jennifer made a motion to go into executive session, Chris seconded and all voted to go into it.

The Council then discussed plans for a future event and award.

Hilary made a motion to exit executive session, Paul seconded and all approved exiting Executive session.

Meeting adjourned.