

FINAL

**Ridgefield Arts Council**  
**Meeting Minutes February 1, 2021**

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**RIDGEFIELD CT**  
*Amélie McCarthy Asst*

RAC Members in attendance: Jennifer DiLaura, Hilary Aronow, Amy Casey, Josh Fischer, Pamme Jones, Jennifer Dineen, Tracey Bryggman, Danielle Roth, Joe Collin, Andrew Okrongly, Raje Kaur

**MINUTES**

Raje made a motion to approve the minutes from the October meeting, Tracey seconded it, and all approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The budget request for the next fiscal year has been submitted and we are waiting to hear back from the town. Make Music Dues were paid out, and we have some flexibility to spend the budget for the remainder of the fiscal year. There are no additional major updates to the treasurer's report.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Banners-RHS booster club and shop local banners are up this month. The Compassionate Ridgefield banners will go up for March. Andrew will send them the installation instructions and procedure info.
2. Our Artists, Our Schools-Dani sent google forms to nonprofits, artists, contacts at schools and is filtering through the responses. Next steps are following up with schools and looping in Compassionate Ridgefield. Raje is interested in spearheading an initiative to increase diversity in the arts curriculum, and to help shape it to be more inclusive with a broader arts education.
3. Grants-Joe is working to move forward on getting our registration for federal funding opportunities. More activity to happen in Spring/Summer. The idea of doing a public art exhibition around the Rec Center track is still being considered but requires significant funding (around \$10-20k) for install, insurance etc. This would be a longer term project and we will continue to work on it.
4. Behind the Scenes-We have awards that were ordered last year (11 for 2021 and 6 for 2020), but we will need to order something for a Nancy award. The committee wants to explore doing an outdoor event in May-Andrew is sending out a survey to help select the best dates.
5. Make Music Day-We have secured Ballard Park for 6/20 & 6/21. We may be able to partner with the group who worked on the Holiday Market the Sunday before MMD to expand the event this year. We should repeat the window serenades this year, since it was very popular last year. Jennifer Dineen will reach out to West Lane Inn as a possible venue. Jennifer DiLaura will attend virtual MMD meetings to learn about other initiatives.
6. Marketing Ideas/Website-Pamme, Dani and Tracey are interested in putting together an artist registry for our website.
7. Survey-Jennifer Dineen put together a survey for arts orgs to continue a dialog of what we could improve on. 73% of RAC members are new so this is a good opportunity to further the discussion of expectations and the best ways we can support the community. This will be sent out prior to the next EDR.

8. Scholarship-Amy made a motion to continue to give the scholarship this year, even though we haven't been able to do any fundraising. Andrew seconded it and all approved.

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes taken by Hilary Aronow

Next meeting will be 3/1/2020