

**Minutes of the Neenah Arts Council
Wednesday, May 24, 2017 - 4 p.m.
Bergstrom Mahler Museum of Glass**

Members Present: Chairman Tami Erickson, Jan Miranda Smith, Paul Seveska, Trina Woldt, Lauri Asbury, Maeghan Johnson, Amy Barker.

Non-Voting Committee Members Present: Brandon Robak, Laurie Olson, Gretchen Raab

Others Present: Amy Michaels, Neenah Police Chief Kevin Wilkinson

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm.

Public Comments

Amy Michaels, Art Teacher at Shattuck Middle School highlighted the activities of the art department in the Neenah Joint School District. She said the schools welcome the opportunity to partner with the arts programs in the community.

Police Chief Wilkinson expressed his support for the Neenah Arts Council and his interest in writing opportunities.

Committee members introduced themselves and explained their connection to the arts in Neenah.

Amy Barker cited some of the upcoming events in the city, including Wednesday Concerts starting June 21st, Thursday Out to Lunch Concerts starting June 8th, Saturday Farmers Market starting June 17th, StreetBall June 10th and 11th, Bike to Boogie (date changed to August 30th because of weather) and Taste of the Trestle June 22nd, a foodie adventure on the Trestle Bridge. This is a fund raiser for the Trestle Trail project. Many more events can be found on the future Neenah website.

Jan Miranda Smith invited members to visit the Quantum Exhibit an installation of glass, light and sound. She also mentioned that the 43rd Annual Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass Art Festival is scheduled for Sunday, July 16th. Arts Council Members can sign-up to volunteer at <http://signup.com/go/bDQsJg>. A variety of shifts are available.

Gretchen Raab mentioned that the Soar into Summer Reading Program for babies through teens starts June 5th. There is also a wide variety of programming for adults this summer. Visit neenahlibrary.org for a complete programming schedule.

Laurie Olson said that Riverside Players will present **Unnecessary Farce** June 21st - 25th and **Footloose** July 27th - 30th and August 2nd - 6th. The Neenah Community Band's Summer Concert Dates at Riverside Park include June 12th, June 27th, July 4th, July 18th, August 1st and August 15th.

Maegan Johnson reported that the Arts and Humanities Department at the Neenah-Menasha YMCA offers an array of programs including dance, music, art, creative writing and theater. Visit ymcafoxcities.org for more information.

The group discussed opportunities for other organizations to post events on the Future Neenah calendar. Tami Erickson will look into ways to update the City of Neenah website.

Mission of the Arts Council

The group reviewed mission statements from Arts Councils from around the state. A sub group will meet before the next meeting to work on the Neenah Arts Council mission statement and will present it to the entire group for approval at the June meeting.

Inventory Of the Arts in the City of Neenah

Tami Erickson presented a preliminary art inventory of the current public art and art offerings in Neenah. An updated list will be reviewed at the next meeting. This information will be added to the Lifestyles and Culture page on the City of Neenah website. It was mentioned that links to various art venues could be added.

Announcements and Future Agenda Items

At the beginning of each meeting each member has the opportunity to share upcoming events for their organization. Brandon Robak suggested looking into an App for the Neenah Arts Council and Laurie Olson recommended that a logo be created.

We plan to brainstorm ways to expand current events and to enhance arts related opportunities on a quarterly basis.


Trina Woldt suggested the group include the culinary arts and, if possible, fashion and interior design.

Reminder to all please accept or decline the email meeting invitation.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 26, 2017 at **Jewelers Mutual Insurance**

Company, 24 Jewelers Park Drive, Neenah. A tour of the R. Harder Gallery of Gems & Minerals will start at 4pm and the Neenah Arts Council meeting will follow.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tami K. Erickson".

Tami Erickson
Neenah Arts Council Chairman