

## **Nags Head Committee for Arts and Culture**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**August 18, 2019, 10:30 am**

#### **Nags Head Town Hall, Conference Room**

Committee Members Present: Peggy Saporito, Kerry Sanders, Ginny Flowers, Lauren Evans, Planning Director Michael Zehner, Deputy Planning Director Kelly Wyatt and Deputy Town Manager Andy Garman.

Public Present: No members of the public present.

Minutes from the April 22<sup>nd</sup> and May 20<sup>th</sup> and July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 were adopted by consensus.

Planning Director Michael Zehner provided the committee with information on the Mattie Midgett Museum located at 4008 S. Virginia Dare Trail being on the market and the status of the collection. The committee was in agreement that it would be incredibly unfortunate if this collection were lost and would be interested in exploring any potential avenues to preserve the collection. Ginny Flowers noted that is a “jewel” on the Outer Banks and efforts should be taken to save it. Lauren Evans noted that she was aware of many people who specifically come to this area to visit this museum and that being in the service industry she has sent many visitors to the museum. Mr. Zehner informed the committee that at this time the museum is no longer open, and that Chaz and Dorothy are in the process of cataloging the collection. Peggy Saporito questioned whether displaying this collection could be something incorporated into any future use of the Dream Center in light of recent conversations about its use. Michael Zehner informed the committee that he had been in contact with a program at UNC-Greensboro to inquire if they would have any interest. Mr. Zehner noted that he would continue communication with the current owners and keep the committee informed. It was the consensus of the committee to request that Board of Commissioners formally consider options for maintaining the museum.

Peggy Saporito asked if there had been any updates or additional thoughts on the recent meeting with Mr. Sumit Gupta regarding the Dream Center and use of the structure for performing arts, etc. Michael Zehner stated that he had a meeting scheduled with Mr. Gupta in the near future and would update the committee moving forward.

Staff member, Kelly Wyatt spoke briefly about the need for the committee to provide and update to the Nags Head Board of Commissioners in early 2020 noting that more information would be provided in following meetings.

The committee discussed opportunities for movies in the future at Dowdy Park. Deputy Town Manager Andy Garman discussed with the committee possible opportunities for grants or collaborations with other organizations in order to be able to acquire the proper equipment, screen, etc. to be able to properly show a movie.

Staff gave a short update on the on-going Art Mast Project noting that Mr. Melvin had his art panel and that Taylor Williams had picked hers up and each were working on them. Ms. Wyatt noted that she would continue to coordinate with Mr. Rob Snyder on his artwork for the panel.

The committee briefly discussed setting a new date and time for their meetings in the 2020 Season however it was determined that it would be best to wait for their November meeting in hopes that more committee members would be in attendance.

The next Art and Culture Committee meeting was set for November 21, 2019.

With no additional items for discussion the meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.