

Nags Head Committee for Arts and Culture

Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2020, 12noon - 1pm

Nags Head Town Hall, Conference Room

Committee Members Present: Peggy Saporito, Kerry Sanders, Lauren Evans, Samantha Brown, Planning Director Michael Zehner, Deputy Planning Director Kelly Wyatt and Event Coordinator Paige Griffin

Public Present: Chris Sawin, Dare County Arts Council

Chris Sawin of the Dare County Arts Council was present to update the Committee on the upcoming Artrageous event being held at Dowdy Park on Saturday, May 9th, 2020 from 10am – 3pm. The theme for this year's event is "Be Yourself, You're an Original". Chris noted that this annual event is a day long festival of art and education activities for children, local community gathering space and that new this year was all student performance series. Chris noted that the Nags Head Art and Culture Committee is always welcome to attend and have an activity at the event as well. Chris was very excited to let the committee know that Barry Lee had agreed to provide the artwork for this year's Artrageous Event. Barry grew up on and went to school on the Outer Banks and later attended Savannah College of Art and Design and had since become a well-known professional artist working out of Atlanta now. For those who were not familiar with him, Chris noted that Barry has multiple physical and social challenges and has used his strength and creativity to uplift himself and his artwork and having him agree to participate in this year's event is a true gift. Chris noted that if Barry Lee can actually be in Town to attend the event, he would love for him to be part of the annual peek-a-boo wall painting project, however, if he cannot, a great artist Melanie Brewer Bortz who paints mandalas could do it. Chris coordinated with the committee and town staff on publicizing efforts and shared press releases moving forward regarding the Artrageous event. In closing Chris thanked the town and the committee for allowing him time to provide the update and for participating in the event each year. Staff notified the committee that they would pass along any additional updates on the event leading up to it.

Michael Zehner, Director of Planning and Development discussed and obtained consensus from the committee that, if allowed through the text amendment process, it would be beneficial to have at least one food truck in attendance at the Wednesday evening concert series this summer. It was noted that many people who attend come late or leave early to try to accommodate providing dinner so, having that option available would likely be appreciated by those attending.

Staff also updated on the committee on the Art Mast Project noting that we would need to consider other ways of mounting the new panels as the previous method had resulted in some damage to Kerry Sanders panel at Bonnett Street last season.

Before closing the meeting, staff asked the committee members to begin brainstorming potential activities to offer at the upcoming Artrageous event. With no additional items for discussion the meeting adjourned at 1:10pm