

## **Albion Cultural Exchange Committee Meeting – Wednesday February 1, 2023 7pm**

Attendees: Tracy Shea, AnnMarie Gallivan, Chris Carino, Kathy Frey, Joy Schilling, Doug Henning

1.) Review and Approval of previous meeting minutes. No minutes from prior meeting.

2.) Building Maintenance & Neighborhood Operations

- Accessibility Audit delivered to Commission on Disabilities Issues. Committee in support of the recommendation to bid out the sloped walkway for the front entrance. Audit Delivered to Ed Dombrowski DPW Liaison. Audit and recommendations sent to Town Admin and to DPW Bus Admin, Ann Waitt – have meeting with them next week. Bill Renault, Handicap admin for the town, is to review next. Future drawings signature requested, future activities include review and eventually putting out to bid once ready.

- Tracy and Chris - 1<sup>st</sup> floor deep clean was recently done. FYI on piloting a cleaning partner for this show as a sponsor; vendor can put promo materials in lobby for the show.

- Window cleaning maintenance - \$700 fee. Looking to schedule in April\May. Also need to finalize funding.

- Windows in front of the building get a high amount of sun. Need to pursue options in the future that will block sun's rays and UV potential damage to art, and increased temperature in the front rooms. Has been a concern of participating artists and vendors.

- Recently identified additional areas that need art hanging tracks.

- Chris contacted ZBA about the development initiative that is behind the building. He attended a January meeting. Requested Plans which he shared with this committee. #13-15 Albion neighbor helping advocate for new construction building overhaul. Looking to address grade out back and drainage, water pipes to our building, the right of way walkway to the back of the ACE building. Very active initiative.

- Future meeting with local businesses on Albion Street parking, Chris to attend and will share invite with Joy and Tracey.

- Front door closes with too much momentum. It's been commented on by several event attendees. Doug to take a look to see if he can remedy.

- Now have two sandwich boards that are painted with chalkboard paint. And a foldable two wheeler, Milwaukee brand, was also donated.

3.) Events

- December 1: WHS Holiday Window Painting Event – used ACE building as home base to paint 30 local business windows. Great event.

- December 2-3: Arts Collaborative Winter Holiday Sale on Friday and Saturday was a solid event. The sale was in tandem with a modified town Holiday Stroll on Saturday. Also on Saturday, Carolyn Lieber's students did a performance.

- December 22<sup>nd</sup>: Holiday A Cappella Event was very successful.
- February: Friends of Albion Cultural Exchange present Cari Mac, Joyce Wood, and Lennie Malvone for the "New England Near & Far" art Show. Setup: Jan 22,29. Show dates: Feb 3, 10, 17 . Chris and Tracy are show organizers and are ACE points of contact.
- March: The art show proposal by Arts Collaborative was withdrawn.
- March: "Open Gallery" art show will be presented by the Friends of ACE. March 5 & 8 Drop Off. Show dates: March 17, 24 with potential bonus March 31<sup>st</sup>. Chris and Tracy are show organizers and ACE points of contact.
- April: is open for events. Chris is looking into possible events, maybe a comedy show.
- May: WHS AP Art exhibit. May 11 Setup. Opening May 12 and closing May 19 - Joy is ACE point of contact
- June: Arts Collaborative art show for the month. Planning is progress. Show name is TBD.

#### 4.) Funding, Gifts & Donations

- MA Cultural Council - Cultural Facilities Fund Announced – ACE is still ineligible due to lack of non-profit structure
- Jay Paget phone call on 501c3 Funding Benefits Creative Haverhill - visit with Tracy to meet Executive Director and tour Building - benefits of becoming a non-profit MA Arts.
- Previous Meeting Guest Erin Padilla from Creative Haverhill. Chris and Tracy visited them in November 2022 as they are a non-profit.
- Friends of ACE - creation and pending 501C3 Status for MA Cultural Council Funding Opportunities 3-6 month approval process. Chris is working towards creating a 501c3 non-profit that will be the Friends of Albion Cultural Exchange. The opportunity is to open up more funding sources for ACE which it seems that being a non-profit will likely do and it may streamline some of the efforts to run ACE. There was discussion about how this fits in with ACE building and committee, and with the town council and administrator.
- Friends of ACE: donations have been made of 108 new picture hooks and 20 new hanging wires. There is the potential for more track and hooks

#### 5.) Un-anticipated topics

- WHS Art Dept submitted an invoice for 30\$ for art hanging system supplies they purchased.

#### 6.) Adjournment