

**Amesbury Cultural Council Meeting**  
**July 15, 2010 7pm**  
**Amesbury Cultural Center-37 Millyard**

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**Present:** Su Bailey, Marc Lisle, Leah Hill, Bob Laplante, Mary Hichborn, Renee Schneider, and Pam Gilday

**Also Present:** Lloyd Hamovit (Two Rivers Ceramics) and Ann Johnson (Artists' Muse)

**Absent:** Rachel Kohn, Lenny Turnquist, and Brian Thompson

1. Meeting with local artists/Studio Tour

- ACC wants to work with local artists for the open studio tour and general overall working relationship with local artists-do we need an artist organization-connecting local artists?
- Publicity outside of the area. Have gotten publicity in Boston Globe. Other ideas include: Merrimack Valley Magazine, North Shore Magazine (Leah to contact), realtors
- Artist Muse does a Friday reception before the studio tour, is this something that we want to promote for other artist buildings? Include receptions in the advertising
- Website advertising, blogspot
- Artist Muse wants to add to the blogspot, contact Pam Farren
- GOAL- have a website just dedicated to the Studio Tour, run by the ACC-all information available in one spot. During the meeting, Marc was able to obtain a domain name for the studio tours-www.amesburystudiotour.com
- Do we want a Facebook page for the studio tour? Twitter?
- How do we encourage visitors to the studio tour to visit the small studios? Seems that they go to the bigger artist buildings.
- Heather Karp does the publicity for Artist Muse.
- Who did the Amesbury Days website? (Watershed Online Media)
- Lloyd suggested giving artists that are part of the tour a digital copy of the brochure so they can send to their contacts.
- Lloyd also mentioned there is a website that lists all craft events in New England- Artists Leagues NH, Mass, we should post the studio tour info there- "NH Open Doors", "Society of Arts & Crafts", and "Art New England".
- Suggestion- have visitors at studio tour sign in with their email as well as a "how did you hear about the studio tour"?
- Important to keep reminding artists (email blasts) about the deadline for the studio tour, as well as Friday reception, etc.
- We could do a T-shirt/buttons for the studio tour- Lloyd said John Manchester from Screaming Logos in Mill 77 in Amesbury would be a good contact for buttons

2. Approval of June 10, 2010 Minutes

Su motioned to approve the June 10, 2010 minutes. Marc 2nds. Vote on motion 7-0.

3. Other Business

- We have a new member.
- Mary received a letter from Annmarie Connor at the senior center thanking us for the grant for a performance

- Mary was given the name of a woman, Julie, from the mayor's office. Mary contacted Julie, who wanted to provide the ACC with the use of her drawings. She has done drawings of different areas of Amesbury. Mary will get in touch with Julie to provide her with information on the ACC, grants she can apply for, etc.
4. Summer Get Together
- Mary's house, July 25.
5. Treasurer's Report
- Reimbursements:
    - Edible Plant Walk
    - Marc Twain
  - Received 2 more tour applications & checks, totaling 9 so far
  - Renee was sent a \$50 donation from Bartlett's Reach thanking us for allowing them to use our panels, this was deposited.
  - Bob motioned to reimburse Marc the \$10.69 for securing the domain name for the studio tours. Su 2nds. Vote on motion 7-0.
  - Bob questioned whether he wanted to remain as treasurer. He will think about it and get back to the group.

Bob left at this time.

6. More Other Business
- Leah said she gave the letter to the mayor's office re. our absentee members.
  - Website subcommittee- need to meet
  - Questioned for the tour-do we only allow local artists? The application is already circulating which states local artists, for next year's tour, discuss if we want to expand.
  - Leah did an inventory of vacant storefronts in downtown Amesbury. Step 2 is to contact the owners, realtors, to see if they are open to displaying art work in their windows. This would be great to have done for during the Studio Tours, look vibrant. Andre from Energy Studio has ideas for downtown, do we want to invite him to next meeting?
  - Tour:
    - What is the policy for group buildings for fees, applications, etc?- Only those who fill out an application get listed in the brochure and on website.
    - What is the cost to run the tour?
    - Raffle prizes to be listed in brochure. Need to get prizes now so they can be listed.
    - Marc will rough out new website

Leah motioned to adjourn. Pam seconds. Vote on motion 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:35

Next meeting August 12, 2010 at 7pm at the Amesbury Cultural Center.

Submitted by Leah T. Hill

