

Artist Enclave of Historic Kenwood

APRIL 10, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

The AEHK met at 6:30 PM to discuss the following items:

Meeting Introductions

We welcomed 20 members and a potential new member, Lynn Connell, who recently moved to the neighborhood and was a guest of Dwayne Shepherd.

AEHK Artists Tour Report – Jan Richardson

Jan thanked the artists who participated and the volunteers who helped organize the very successful event: Charla Cribb for press coverage, coordination, and encouragement; Mike and MJ Baker (and mother) for creating signage; Mike Baker and Doug Thonen for getting out the signage; Steven Kenny, Barbara Lewis and Dwayne Shepherd for the pre-tour; Joy Rose and D Yael Kelly for sharing their mailing lists and social media, along with Laura and Matt Albright and Barbara Lewis for social media, Deb Von Cannon for keeping the Website updated; Kim Alderman for her work on the flyer and map, those who distributed flyers and everyone who shared on social media. As well, she thanked Your Neighborhood Realty and Jim and Julie Longstreth and Frank Clemente for their sponsorships.

While, overall, the event was a huge success, Jan suggested (and the majority agreed) that some small improvement can be made, primarily numbering the tour stops on the map and finding ways to get more visitors to the “outlying” areas, outside the main concentration of neighborhood studios. Jan passed out an anonymous survey for members to provide input into the tours.

Summer Hiatus and Committees

Performing Arts Committee: Joy Rose, the committee chair, has left the neighborhood until August or September, calling for a new Performing Arts Committee Chair. No one stepped forward to fill this vacancy of a chair, however, Peentz Dubble was recruited to join Jim Woodfield, Gabriela Valencia and Charla Cribb on the committee. Peentz will also attempt to recruit another performing artist who lives in the neighborhood. The committee will meet during the June and July AEHK summer hiatus to bring back suggestions to the August meeting.

Charla explained that our contract for use of Burlington House for our meetings does not include June and July, when, historically, the AEHK has low attendance due to vacations. Members were asked if there is a preference to continue meeting offsite in June and July. It was agreed that committees would meet offsite to continue their work, and we also will meet socially on occasion. Dwayne Shepherd volunteered to host an AEHK social gathering during the hiatus (details at the May meeting).

Dues Increase

As requested, members were presented with the Historic Kenwood Neighborhood Association (HKNA) accounting of funding and debits and credits, thanks to Annamarie Dotson, who is the HKNA bookkeeper. Charla explained that the spreadsheets do not account for many of the unseen costs the

HKNA covers for the AEHK, including liability insurance for events, free Website space, permits for events, banking, accounting, etc. Charla, Jim Woodfield and Lance Olson explained the rationale for needing to bring in more income if we want to expand our membership and activities for performing artists, as, unlike visual artists, don't have anything to sell or any AEHK events to impel them to become involved in the AEHK. Performing artists expect to be paid, which could be covered by charging admission. However, there are numerous associated costs for performing arts events – rental of performing arts venues, printing of tickets and programs, insurance, sets (where needed), and advertisement, to account for only a few of the additional costs that the HKNA budget does not cover. Jim Woodfield suggested that we need a patron drive to help raise capital.

A spirited discussion followed that also included debating whether AEHK members should be required to become HKNA members, the HKNA board's reluctance to approve raising our dues to the previously-proposed \$25/year and \$40 for couples. In the end, this discussion was tabled until the members can review the accounting spreadsheets and the performing arts committee can return with proposals. At any rate, the dues increase would not be implemented until January 2019, and first, we must provide some concrete proposals for HKNA funding in the 2019 budget.

Other Business

Jan Richardson asked members to go online and vote for St. Petersburg to win the title of most craft-friendly city. We came close last year, but another city energized their residents to vote and keep voting once a day for their city. To vote, go to AmericanCraftWeek.com. As of the date of these minutes, we are in the lead, but Mineral Point, WI, which won last year, is close behind. Voting ends April 16!!

Barbara Lewis initiated a proposal that we host a second one-day studio tour in conjunction with BungalowFest, the Sunday after the Saturday historic home tour. After discussing logistics, including that visitors to a home tour will not want to carry purchased artwork around on an exhaustive home tour and a BungalowFest time conflict with our early December Gallery Show, which this year will be open to all AEHK artists, by consensus it was decided not to explore BungalowFest participation. However, we agreed that we should be promoting the AEHK and both our gallery show and annual spring studio tour at the park pavilion during BungalowFest.

Maurice Bartikofsky also suggested that we design and sell AEHK T-shirts.

May Meeting:

At the next meeting, Deb Von Cannon will give a presentation on a complete redesign of the AEHK Website – something we all agreed that is badly needed.

As well, Bob Jeffries will attend to discuss the HKNA's Public Arts neighborhood initiative and a plan to recruit neighborhood artists to give classes in order to produce finished artwork to be displayed on a permanent basis around the neighborhood.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Charla Cribb, AEHK Liaison to the HKNA Board.

