MINUTES

Greater Dover Arts Council
November 19, 2015, 3:30PM

IN ATTENDANCE: Chevis Anderson, Sydney Artnz, Taylor Collins, Margie Cyr, Charles Guerin, Paul Janiga, Cheryl Scheir, Sarah Zimmerman

Council introduced themselves to one of our new members, Charles Guerin. Mr. Guerin is the Executive Director of the Biggs Museum of American Art.

Chevis called the meeting to order at 3:36pm.

OLD BUSINESS

SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 MINUTES
In discussion about the minutes, Paul wanted to clarify his comments to reflect that he was trying to open up for discussion the GDAC goals and not questioning them. Paul made a motion to accept the minutes, with his clarification. Sarah seconded the motion. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S ARTS AWARD/YOUTH ARTS AWARD
Chevis thought the awards presentation and reception at City Hall was great as well as the performances held at the library. Cheryl thought the library performances were wonderful too.

FAMILY COURT STUDENT ART EXHIBITS
Chevis will try to reach Judge Pyott by email about the art exhibit project. Chevis would like to meet with Cheryl to discuss the details. Paul asked who manages the exhibits at the Kent County Administrative Building; Chevis believes it's the Delaware Arts Association but will double check on that. Taylor thought it would be nice if we could work with them on the project. Taylor asked what was going to happen with the Family Court's permanent artwork; Chevis said that artwork is in a different part of the building and won't be affected by the project.

NEW BUSINESS

GDAC VISION, FOCUS, AND DIRECTION DISCUSSION
In review of the Bylaws, the GDAC will "encourage program development in the visual and performing arts by assisting artists and art organizations with event coordination; foster collaboration and communication among various visual and performing artists and various arts organizations; provide resource information and a community arts calendar". Paul wondered if we could tap into the Division of the Arts calendar of events. Taylor commented that people visiting or new to the area typically will go to the City website to look for information. Margie thinks the City's interest in the website is only that it will share information about the government activities of the City. They don't see that the website should have a broader vision. Margie also said that the Downtown Dover Partnership is working on a master calendar for the Greater Dover community. Taylor would like the Council to get involved with the Sendak exhibit which is coming to the Library next July…perhaps cash awards, sponsor a poetry reading, or a children's production. Sarah suggested working with the Delaware Division of the Arts. Chevis would still like to see a City of Dover marching band started up. Cheryl would like to see more visibility, perhaps having a table at Dover Days and preparing a flyer with events that the Council is involved in. Margie would like the Council to identify some things that they would like to do to give some purpose to the group. Margie thinks it would be appropriate for the GDAC to have a member of the Council on the planning committee for the Sendak Exhibit project. Taylor is already on the committee and could be the GDAC voice. Cheryl suggested brainstorming ideas using a flip chart.

Sendak Exhibit – 7/30/2015 – 9/11/2015:
- Children's Theater (grant?)
- Schwartz Center (grant?)
- Mayor's white paper with talking points
- Integrate into tourism materials
- Prison program – literature, poetry readings
- Throughout the exhibit, approximately every couple of weeks, sponsor a Sendak–inspired art / literature contest – visual, performance (dance/theater), musical, poetry
- Promote at Dover Days

- Non-monetary prize options: Schwartz Center tickets, gift shop item from the Biggs Museum, local business donations, etc.
- Performance opportunities

Charles said the Library and Biggs Museum will be doing an opening for the exhibit. He suggested the Council do something different and on top of what the Museum and Library are doing.

Annual Event(s) for GDAC to sponsor:

Arts Festival or French Quarter Festival
- Different performances on every street corner
- Carefully choreographed outdoor local event
- Jazz, contemporary, hip-hop stages
- One day event to start

Fourth of July Event
- First year, partner with the 4th of July committee
- Work with the Mayor's office to coordinate logistics
- Have event at Dover Downs
- Multiple stages (check with June Jam coordinators about extra stages)
- Promote event at Dover Days

Chevis suggested sponsoring an event on the Saturday during **Dover Days**:
- Jazz hour
- Hip-Hop Hour
- Classical Hour

Cheryl spoke about the **Good Show Award** idea; a recognition certificate or letter that the Council members can send out when they see a performance or exhibit that's outstanding. Chevis loves the idea.

Chevis suggested coordinating with the 4th of July committee to see what they are planning so we can see how we can help.

Chevis is very interested in starting a **City Marching Band**. Chevis shared that he used to march for Delaware State University and also started the marching band for the Philadelphia Soul. Paul is not sure starting a marching band is part of the GDAC's mission. Chevis is more than willing to take the lead on this project.

Sydney suggested that the GDAC sponsor a **film series at the Schwartz Center** (and/or the library as well). Some suggestions:
- Choose themes relevant to Dover
- Talk with people who have film knowledge
- Fundraiser to cover film rental cost
- Periodic, perhaps monthly
- Membership fees

PROPOSED 2016 BUDGET
Potential costs for 2016 to consider: film rental cost, stage rental cost, Arts reception. The Council will submit a proposed budget of $5,000 to the Mayor to cover the cost of the 2016 projects discussed.

CITY WEBSITE
Chevis would like to see the Council move forward with their own social media efforts. Taylor offered to create a Twitter account and link it to the GDAC Facebook page. Chevis encouraged everyone to get 5 – 10 people to "like" and "share" our Facebook page by January.

Paul made a motion to adjourn; Sarah seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 14, 2016