Greater Dover Arts Council
Board of Directors Meeting
3:30 PM, September 18, 2014
Dover Public Library

Members Present	Members Absent	Others Present
Chevis Anderson	Beccy Cooper	Cathy Samardza
N. Taylor Collins	Amy Spampinato	Margie Cyr, City of Dover
Caroline Greene		Karen DeMarco, City of Dover
Susan Johnston		
Paul Janiga, Vice Chair		
Brian Miller, Chair		
Cheryl Sheir		
Cynthia Witt		

CALLED TO ORDER: 3:35 PM with 8 members in attendance.

WELCOME
Brian welcomed new council members Cynthia Witt and Cheryl Sheir to the meeting. Everyone was asked to write down a few things about themselves and then share with the group.

OLD BUSINESS
Paul made a motion to approve the Minutes of June 12, 2014 as written, Chevis seconded the motion.

Brian encouraged everyone to attend the Mayor's Arts Award & Mayor's Youth Arts Award ceremony and reception at City Hall in Council Chambers on October 13, at 7:30pm. The awards are presented during the City Council meeting.

The First Friday Reception for the award winners will take place on Friday, October 3 from 5:30-7:30pm at the Biggs Museum. Each of the recipients will do a 10 minute presentation of their talent during the reception. Brian asked if there was anyone the council thought they should invite. Margie thought it would be very nice and politically correct to invite the Dover City Council and Kent County Levy Court; she will be inviting Dr. Annie Norman, Director of the Delaware Division of Libraries. Taylor would like to invite Susan and Charles Salkin. Paul will send out an invitation to the Governor and Mrs. Markell. Chevis suggested the Delaware State University and the Dover High School Art Departments. Cynthia thought the Delaware Division of the Arts should be invited. Margie thinks this is a great opportunity to showcase the work of the Greater Dover Arts Council and the more people we invite the better. The refreshments have been arranged. Susan and Margie will reach out to Amy on the status of the wine.

Brian will work on the program for the event, which will include a brief bio of the winners. Margie offered to print up the program. Chevis offered to do additional formatting if needed.

Caroline asked Taylor if she was able to find any release of liability forms. Taylor showed everyone a copy of a simple release form she found. Margie thought the form was fine. Caroline is still concerned about the liability and copyright issues. Cynthia stressed that we must have parent's consent if the child is a minor. Cynthia offered to try to obtain a copy of the release form that the Dover Symphony uses; Brian asked her to send a copy of it to Taylor. Cathy suggested including any "format" that we may use and/or can think of on the release form to cover all the bases.

Caroline does not think we have the authority to use any information from the nomination packets. For the reception, it was suggested to get permission to take photographs for the Facebook page.

NEW BUSINESS
Brain asked if anyone had any conflicts with the meeting schedule for the GDAC, which will tentatively meet on the third Thursday at 3:30PM on the following dates:

November 20
January 15
March 19
May 21

Taylor enjoys meeting at the library, but suggested that if we have a guest speaker perhaps move to another venue. Chevis thinks the library is a central location with ample parking.

Brian asked for guest speaker suggestions. Susan is concerned about how to make the group more dynamic. Perhaps consulting with the DE Division of the Arts for ways and suggestions. Chevis thinks that people just don't know about the GDAC and that we need to be more available to the public and would like to see a city-wide choir, marching band, etc. for the youth and elderly.

Cathy thinks that part of the problem is that the GDAC does not have money and suggested writing grants or partnering with other organizations who can write grants. Margie agrees with partnership and sees the GDAC as a body that involves all of the other organizations that are somewhat related to the arts and wonders why representatives from these organizations are not here at the table. Perhaps invite these representatives to a brainstorming session. Susan suggested partnering with the library; Margie explained the library's' partnership with the Holly Branch Pen Women, who coordinate the rotating art display and the Artist Showcase that Taylor was involved with.

Caroline pointed out that we need to follow the bylaws which read, in part, encourage program development, foster collaboration and provide resource information. Perhaps we need to reach out to other groups for advice on how to accomplish these goals. Margie and Chevis will work together on getting the GDAC webpage up and running. Cheryl suggested creating our own website and/or blog. Cynthia would like to see a community calendar of all art related events in the area. Cathy thinks the council "purpose" is good but is just not being done. Margie suggested that everyone think about what direction they would like to see the GDAC going and do some brainstorming at the next meeting. Margie will prepare flip charts for the meeting.

In discussing the bylaws, Brian asked if everyone agreed with the corrections made in red. All were in favor of the corrections. Brian will send the updated bylaws out to the Council.

Margie shared with the group that the library will be serving as a host site for the Maurice Sendak Memorial Exhibition in August – September 2016. The exhibit is quite large and the library does not have the capacity to host is all and has reached out to the other community organizations to develop partnerships. The Biggs Museum & Kent County Tourism have already agreed to partner with us. Margie met with the Delaware Public Archives and the Kent County Children's Theater with the hopes of perhaps developing a stage performance of Where the Wild Things Are or Really Rosie and have it performed around the City and Kent County to support this exhibit. The library will be working to develop enrichment programs to support the theme of children's literature and artwork, etc. Margie asked if the Council would like to partner with the library as well. Brain asked how the group can help; Margie thinks that once we get all the partners in place we can see what role the council can play.

Paul announced that the Kent County Theater Guild is in rehearsals for Arsenic and Old Lace. Cynthia said that the Dover Symphony has a concert coming up on the second Saturday in October at the Calvary Baptist Church.

Susan made a motion to adjourn; Chevis seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned 4:40PM.