



Village of Niles
PUBLIC ARTS & CULTURE ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.
Electronic Meeting

Members Present:

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| Carol Luc – Artist | Marina Samovsky – Photographer |
| Julie Jentel - Niles Park District | Sarah Djordjevic – Maine East Fine Arts Dept |
| Joseph Steinfels – Niles VFW Post 3579 | Carly Derec – Artist |
| Kim Biederman- Niles Chamber of Commerce | Barbara Karawacki – Niles Historical Society |

Members Absent:

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| Janet Spector Bishop – School District 63 | Victoria Luz- Niles-Maine District Library |
| Kathleen Gallegos – Artist | |

Village Officials/Staff Present:

Katie Schneider – Community Engagement Coordinator
Kiki Alpogianis - Community Engagement Coordinator Intern

I. Call to Order:

Kim Biederman called the meeting to order electronically via Zoom audio/visual conferencing at 4:33 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12, 2022.

II. Public Comment

The electronic meeting is open to the public. No public comment was submitted in advance of the meeting. No public comment was made at the meeting.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Joseph Steinfels made a name correction to the April 12, 2022 minutes and made a motion to approve as amended, Carol Luc second the motion, all were in favor, none opposed. Minutes approved.

IV. Organization Representative Reports

Julie Jentel (Niles Park District) - The Park District continues their Concerts in the Park at Oak Park every Friday evening and now preparing for fall classes.

Carol Luc (Artist) – Carol is in a show *Drawn from Nature* at the Chicago Botanical Gardens. She also did illustrations for a video series by St. Mary of the Woods on the windows of Madonna.

Sarah Djordjevic (Maine East Fine Arts Dept) – Students are currently on summer vacation

Barb Karawacki (Niles Historical Society) – There is a new display on Tam O'Shanter Golf Course and the museum is working on a display or exhibit for the Slingerland Drum Company which was in Niles many, many years. Historical Society will be open Saturday hours through September.

Marina Samovsky (Photographer) – Continues professional photos for graduations, headshots, and maternity. She also was able to feature a Ukrainian Family for the At Our Table series.

Katie Schneider (Community Engagement Coordinator) – The Village is hosting a Last Call Before Fall Art and Music Fest for September 10 from 2:00 – 7:00 pm at the Niles Senior Center. Currently they are looking for artists. Katie has sent the information out to Council members and asked for assistance promoting it.

Joseph Steinfels (Niles VFW 3579) – The VFW made two generous donations to Family Services and the Food Pantry at the last Village Board meeting. The VFW also led the 4th of July parade for the Village. On August 11th the VFW will host their Chicago Dogs event. The VFW currently has 486 members from the Niles, Park Ridge area. The Post is hosting a golf outing and September 11th Ceremony.

Carly Derec (Artist) - Currently working on some private commissions.

Kim Biederman (Niles Chamber of Commerce) - The Chamber Golf Outing is coming up on July 19th at Chevy Chase Golf Course. The Niles Chamber Community Guide is now available and extra copies will be in businesses and facilities; it's a free publication. Niles Morning Network in July will be on *How Money Works* and in August Debi Gajewski will present *How to Sell on Etsy*. The Chamber is partnering with the Police Department for quarterly meetings to meet local businesses and proactively work together.

V. Niles Artisan Guild

Debi Gajewski who normally gives this report, has resigned from the Public Arts & Culture Council, she is moving out of state. Pam Yokoyama is the President now. No report was given.

VI. Old Business

- a. **Fitness Center Art Gallery:** Katie Schneider reported the walls have been painted and the hanging wall system has been ordered. Katie is working on a consignment agreement for artists.

VII. New Business

- a. **Utility Box Wrap:** Katie Schneider showed the Council a large utility box located at Golf Mill Park and suggested that it be wrapped with an artistic design. The box is owned by the Village, so no additional approvals are needed. After discussion, the Council agreed to support the idea and move forward. Katie will get pricing on wrapping materials. Carol will do some research on the artist end for what stipend amount is appropriate. A design should keep in context with the area, its purpose of the park and neighboring shopping center.
- b. **Last Call Before Fall Art and Music Fest:** As Katie mentioned at the beginning, we are currently looking for artists that want to sell their work. The application is online and was posted to Call to Artists websites and groups. The artist fee is \$35 and artists can rent equipment like canopy tents, electric, WIFI and tables and chairs. All artists have the option to bring their own equipment for no charge.

VIII. Open Discussion

Carol Luc shared with the group that *Country Magazine* featured the Leaning Tower as a "Hidden Gem" as a roadside attraction.

Sarah Djordjevic shared that Maine East has 15 old pianos that they are looking to donate or dispose of, if anyone is interested.

IX. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. and can meet in person again, the Council would like to meet with both options.

X. Adjournment

Joseph Steinfelds made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:07 p.m. Marina Samovsky second the motion, all were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Katie Schneider, Community Engagement Coordinator