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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Arts Committee**

*Monday, February 26, 2024 – 6:30 PM
This meeting was conducted via Zoom*

Board Members Present: Gayle Baron, Alida Camp (Chair), Sahar Husain, Rita Popper, and Peggy Price.

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 7

Minutes:

Item 1: Debriefing of February 2024 Winter Crafts Show

We began by debriefing the February 10th Crafts Show.

Issues from the Winter Crafts Show:

- Placement of tables during set-up
- Need for FAQ for artists

One crafter asked about using the schoolyard for a future art show. The yard is not as ideal as James Cagney Place, which we have used for several years for outdoor art shows. The yard is not as visible to the public.

We agreed that the gym was a very good venue for an indoor show.

Assistant District Manager Kevin Wu confirmed that the office maintains a master list of those who submitted to participate in the show.

One of the Committee members suggested sending a survey, which we have been preparing.

A coffee vendor expressed interest in selling prepared coffee at the show. They roast in Brooklyn as a wholesale coffee roaster. He referred to a study that caffeinated shoppers spend more. A discussion on providing ample trash disposal followed. A discussion of electricity and other needs was raised.

The Board-prepared schedule was reviewed.

In discussing the June 2023 Art Show, we decided that having the show on Father's Day weekend would not be ideal. The Committee decided on June 22nd as the Art Show date, with a rain date of June 23rd. First submissions in mid-May, second submissions a couple of weeks later.

The schedule was reviewed with the recognition that it would be a dialogue between the Committee and Board office.

We noted that we review the submissions only on appropriateness, such as inciting violence, bigotry, copyright, hate, and pornography. We do not vet on aesthetic grounds.

We confirmed that the June show is focused on visual art, while the February show is focused on crafts. We agreed that the flyers should reflect the show's focus, but tightly edited.

Artists who don't submit images and don't agree to the Community Board 8 Manhattan requirements will not be permitted at the shows. The flyers will include language such as "no drop-ins permitted."

One of the Committee members will place the submissions and show flyers on Patch's Community Events.

A member of the public will include the flyer in his newsletter with over 1000 subscribers. He also offered to help us get coverage of the show.

Item 2: Discussion of future events, including timing and contacts.

The Arts Committee may be able to have a joint program with or sponsor a theatre event of The Origin Theatre Company, whose creative director is Mick Mellamphy, a former CB8 member. There may be opportunities with the Historic American Irish Society. In addition, there was a discussion about having a musical performance in the fall to supplement the Committee's visual shows.

The Arts Committee will have a meeting to determine its agenda and programming.

There was a brief discussion of potential venues.

We had questions about the new DOB rule requiring art on green construction fences, subject to an opt-out, which went into effect in September 2023. The Board office will provide updates. There was a suggestion about a joint meeting with the Youth, Libraries, Education Committee about providing art for construction fences.

Item 3: Old Business

No items of old business were discussed.

Item 4: New Business

No items of new business were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Alida Camp, Chair