Lyceum Meeting August 6, 2018

Minutes

Present: Mary Weissblum, Christy Park, Rosie Sagall, Saira Austin, Cindi Williams, Barbara Braver, and Susan Oleksiw

The meeting was convened at 4:30.

The minutes were approved.

Upcoming Programs

Iris Weaver, "Foraging through the Seasons," is scheduled for August 9. Cindi has created a book list for the presentation. Susan will introduce her.

John Root will give the talk "Crop Circles" on August 11, 10:00 to noon. The time is at his request. Saira will introduce him.

Paul Zambella will talk on the state police crime lab on September 13.

New Programs

The committee continued an earlier discussion on the aging brain. Deborah S . . . of Senior Care has offered to discuss this. But the question arose whether she was qualified or able to discuss the changes in science in this area. A specialist in this area, such as a neurologist, would probably be expensive. The question is, What would be valuable for people to know? Cindi will ask Deborah S. about this.

This discussion led to consideration of a series on aging.

Deborah Kelsey has proposed a brochure on programs for the period January-June 2019, as part of an overall PR upgrade. The committee members felt the website was much improved and the eBlast was also very good.

The brochure PR usually needs a dedicated person to bring together the many programs and details. The Lyceum also doesn't plan that far ahead with some exceptions such as the art demos. We as a committee like to be topical, open to ongoing requests and able to be spontaneous in our programming. We're a legacy committee, and operate in response to opportunities coming forward.

Cindi passed around the Danvers brochure, which is several pages of programs for children, teens, and adults. It doesn't include anything comparable to our Lyceum events.

The committee also discussed whether or not a program on issues related to seniors might fit with something like a brochure. We touched on several topics: Housing for Seniors, when and what; Senior Health, maintaining the four pillars of health (sleep, diet, exercise, and stress reduction); and the aging brain, with recent research and staying mentally alert. The committee explored the idea of a panel, with several individuals such as Cynthia Bjorlie.

The committee will also support about 6 art demos for the coming year.

Susan Erony has been working with the library on its collection of art books, and may be giving a talk later in the year.

Andi Ross was asked to give a talk on area watershed issues but her proposal is really about gardening. The committee reviewed her contract, and felt she was addressing the issue as a gardener, and not as one concerned with climate change science. Cindi will notify her that the program is not as we had hoped, so we will not be presenting it.

The League of Women Voters sponsored a talk about sea rise and how it affects ground water. We'll look into the speaker.

The suggestion was made for a program on community programs/resources, such as Backyard Growers by Laura Lapionka, Cape Ann TimeBank, Cape Ann Skeptics, Generous Gardeners, and the UU foundation. This is something along the lines of a volunteer fair.

Beyond Beauport by James Masciarelli is scheduled for August 21.

The Marketing Arts panel, originally scheduled for June, can be scheduled for September. Susan will contact the artists who agreed/expressed interest to set the date.

The state is providing an exhibit on Maritime History and Slavery, for the Matz Gallery for December 2018. We are considering hosting a movie about a Rhode Island family and its long history with slavery. Barbara sent everyone links for and about the movie. This is one of them: http://www.pbs.org/pov/tracesofthetrade/

The meeting adjourned at 5:55.

Program notes provided by Cindi Williams.

Notes from Iris Weaver 8/9

Lovely presentation

Could be a bit larger

Excellent information, engaging presenter

Excellent source about plants

Too much detail, too long, boring

Suggestion: Another presentation by Iris, more on being one with nature.

Notes from Crop Circles 8/11

Too many pictures, more science

I learned a lot

Provided new info that expanded me

Suggestion: pseudoscience

Notes from James M. (with added question about using library resources) 8/21

The author’s personable presentation of the background history of piracy and the questions he sought to answer with the book were very informative.

Suggestion: More local authors.