

## Supporting Arts Together-- Meeting Minutes – October 25, 2022

**Members Present:** Shannon Farro, Amy Barrett, Wendy Bass, Brown Bradley, Becky, Troy Marron, Kathy Strauss, Susan Abercrombie

**Staff Present:** Cindy Gettig, Amanda Bailey, Bob Harris, Chris Mowder

**Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Shannon Farro**

### Welcome & Introductions:

Shannon Farro welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.

### Chamber Updates:

Speaker: Cindy Gettig

The chamber is currently in strategic planning mode. We have many events coming up, one to include our first Non-Profit Expo at HGTC. Cindy encouraged everyone to come out and check out the booths and various nonprofits within our community. We will have our Grant Writing 101 class on November 9 presented by Drayton Arnold. January 19<sup>th</sup> will be our Member-to-Member Business Expo. Supporting Arts Together gets a free exhibitor booth. Cindy encouraged everyone to take advantage of that space and come out and enjoy the evening of networking and learning more about different chamber investors. We just finished our women's conference; it was very successful. We will make this an annual event and should have a date for 2023 announced soon.

### Visit Myrtle Beach Update:

Speaker: Chris Mowder

There are many things happening in marketing in support of the arts community. In collaboration with Danette, we had Annie Melik present her artwork in the chamber lobby for Hispanic Heritage month. The Myrtle Beach Arts Trail was launched middle of September and has been doing very well. Already has had 400 check in's and 200 downloads. Hope to have many more art locations added by springtime. The airport is getting a facelift with new graphics being added, selfie areas, banners, and much more. The banners will be a variety of fun facts about Myrtle Beach, as well as what you need to know. Currently working on a new season of Chef Swap for 2023.

### Winter Wonderland Arts & Crafts:

Speaker: Amy Barrett-Myrtle Beach Downtown Alliance, Tony Marron

Amy came to discuss Winter Wonderland and try to get support for vendors for the event. She went through the various events happening currently. Nights at Nance had a Halloween night that included live music and dancing. There was an Oyster Roast on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue called Oyster & Beer Fest. The street will be shut down for this event. An oyster shucking contest will take place along with many other fun things to do at the event. They also had a Jerk Chicken Fest that had Jamaican food, island music and

dancing. Winter Wonderland will have a market that will be in Plyer Park from Thursday to Sunday from 6-9 p.m. There are plenty of food vendors but need additional vendors from other areas. The goal is to have all slots filled up, but each night there will be about five or six spots available. There is no fee and tents are provided. The dates of Winter Wonderland are Nov. 17-Dec. 23. Shannon suggested reaching out to Create Conway that may have additional information on vendors. Kathy suggested Rob Walton with Waccamaw Guild. Amy has promotional pieces she would like to share with the group and the community to spread the word.

Open Forum:

Speaker: All

Becky (Carolina Master Chorale): They have many concerts planned for this season, starting December 10. Variety of Christmas and holiday music. They will be bringing back sing alongs. Would like to start up Beer & Broadway. There would be singers singing Broadway theatre music while people enjoy alcoholic beverages.

Brown (First Presbyterian Church): There will be a few different shows offered in February. Provided brochures for everyone.

Kathy (Waccamaw Guild): A new art gallery will be hung on October 31<sup>st</sup>. There will be a featured artists every month.

Susan (Long Bay Symphony): There is a lot going on in November and December. November 6<sup>th</sup> will start Native Voices with Phillip Howl. November 12-13 there is a Veterans Day program in different locations in Horry County. It will be \$10 to get in and Veterans get in free. The show will be in Conway on Saturday and Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle Beach on Sunday. November 16<sup>th</sup> will be the Long Bay Symphony's youth concert held at CCU. The Long Bay Symphony hosts a huge New Years Eve gala each year. This year it will start at 7 p.m. and is black tie optional. There will be ballroom dancing and singing.

Wendy (City of Myrtle Beach): Art classes are expanding, and they updated their recreational website. Allowing for online registration. This is a huge accomplishment, as they've been using paper registrations for many years now. This will make it much easier for individuals to use the city's recreational facilities. Drayton Arnold assisted Wendy in acquiring a grant to provide more funds for the city to offer more recreational activities.

Shannon (Long Bay Symphony): Encouraged everyone to be apart of the Member-to-Member Expo and use the free booth given to the group. Want to get together and plan what their booth will be and want to get a lot of people involved to have a good presence for the arts.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m. by Shannon Farro**