

## **Brewer Culture and Arts Committee Meeting**

Monday, April 21, 2025 6:00 p.m.  
Joseph L. Ferris Community Center

### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

### **II. Roll Call**

Present: Steve, Michele, Edner, Kathleen, Susan, Tammy, Amanda, Anne, Sioubahn, Ashlie

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the March 17, 2025, meeting were formally adopted.

### **IV. Announcements & Housekeeping**

- For new members, a brief tutorial video was shared on navigating multiple tabs within a Google Doc.
- Committee members are reminded to notify Tammy via text at (207) 659-4701 in the event of an absence.

### **V. New Business**

#### **A. Committee Membership and Secretary Role**

- The committee continues its search for new members, with an emphasis on filling the vacant Secretary position.
- New members will serve in a non-voting capacity; current members will maintain voting responsibilities.

#### **B. 2025 Event Planning**

##### **1. Riverwalk Festival – Update by Steven Wong**

- Total funds raised: \$13,250
- Participants: 38 confirmed craft vendors, 12–15 food trucks, beer tent secured

- Volunteer information: Members are encouraged to email Renée with availability. A volunteer list is also posted on the Brewer Riverwalk Festival Facebook page.
- BACC will host a table featuring the Brewer Garden Club and WAA.
- Ashlie will create a Google Form and QR code to collect public suggestions for future events. Suggested questions include:
  - Interest in joining BACC
  - Contact information
  - Favorite community events
  - Preferred event times (morning/afternoon/evening)
  - Event types of interest (music, arts, cultural, children's, adult, other)

## **2. Native American Heritage Event – Update by Tammy and Lee**

- Tammy has spoken with a representative of the Penobscot drummers. An \$800 appearance fee is required; additional vendor fees are anticipated.
- The committee agreed to table further planning for one month to allow Tammy and Edner to consult with the Wabanaki Council in Bangor.
- Edner and Lee will also reach out to Four Directions for partnership opportunities.
- Financial limitations are noted until a Treasurer is appointed and additional funds are raised.

## **3. Wreaths Across America – Update by Susan**

- The subcommittee has convened twice.
- Goal: secure a tractor-trailer for the June 28 event.
- Walmart partnership ongoing; QR code will be used for public donations. Last year's donations totaled 41 wreaths.
- Pre-4th of July activities: distribute flags and promotional materials.

- Edner has created revised business donation tiers (\$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000) and corresponding outreach letters.
- Posters and calls for community volunteers will be distributed.
- A volunteer planning meeting will be held 2–3 weeks prior to ensure smooth execution.
- Estimated 700 wreaths needed this year; Parks and Cemetery departments have provided updated figures.
- Kathleen will draft a letter to local schools (distribution: late August; mailbox stuffing: early September).
  - **Student Participation:**
    - Pre-K–Grade 2: wreath decorations (each class receives school supplies)
    - Grades 3–5: poster contest (winning teacher receives a gift card)
    - Grades 6–8: essay contest (winning teacher receives a gift card)
    - High School: poetry contest (winning teacher receives a gift card)
- The evening program will be held Thursday instead of Friday.
- The committee discussed displaying Veteran names prominently, with Parks & Rec and NESCom/iEX support for video production and a projection wall.

#### **4. “May the Course Be With You” – Proposed by Mandy**

- Date: May 4, 2025
- Location: Brewer Riverwalk (meet at 11:30 AM by Mason’s)
- Theme: Star Wars (costumes encouraged but optional)
- Michele will confirm permit requirements with Eric.
- Advertising: Social media, Channel 5, radio; posted on Benjamin’s page.

## **5. Proposed Oktoberfest – September 26, 2026**

- Proposed by Mandy and spouse via private business.
- Location: End of Acme Road (city-owned property).
- Activities: beer tent, food trucks, craft fair.
- Permit may be required.
- Plan to start small with growth over time.

## **6. Paws on Penobscot – Proposed Collaboration with Bangor Humane Society**

- Tentative Date: Late August
- Features: Adopt-a-thon, therapy dogs, dog parade
- Committee will seek guidance and recommendations from BCAC.

## **7. Additional Notes**

- Begin brainstorming logo ideas for the BACC.
- Reminder to follow up with Eric regarding creating an official BACC Facebook page.

## **VI. Public Comments**

None.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Ashlie.

Seconded by Edner.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM.