

## **Westport Arts Advisory Committee**

Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 12 noon, Town Hall room 201

**Present:** Kathie Bennewitz, Miggs Burroughs, Frederic Chiu, Richard Epstein, Lee Goldstein, Shobana Mani, Charles Rosoff, Elizabeth Strick.

**Guests:** Ive Covaci, Harris Falk, Taran Gulikso

**Unable to attend:** Nancy Diamond, Eric Chiang, Jerry Graham, Jessica Noyes, Dina Upton.

**Call to order 12:04 pm**, co-chair Shobana Mani

### **Approval of WestPAC accessions**

A list of 43 items (which included 5 portfolios with 70 individual prints collectively) was presented by Kathy (WestPAC) for vote to recommend their accession. All but one of these works is destined for presentation to the BOE with one item for the town, specifically the Westport Center for Senior Activities. This was prepared after a review by our joint WestPAC-WAAC accession work group. (Work that was not accepted to the collection will either be sold or given to the schools for teaching purposes. WAAC will have a follow up discussion on next steps about conducting a sale.)

Kathie reminded everyone that the Paul Camacho exhibition opens this Thursday, January 11 at MOCA from 5-7pm. Work on exhibit is from the Town Collection, Housatonic Museum of Art, and other art institutions.

### **Poet Laureate Report:**

Jessica could not be present but sent a report. She has a scheduled six sessions at the Senior Center combining poetry and History. On February 2<sup>nd</sup> she will be in conversation with Dick Raugh who has an exhibit of his paintings at the Westport Library.

- Early talks to do an event at the Senior Center on 4/4 for National Poetry Month
- Currently teaching an art history/poetry class at the Senior Center for the next 7 Fridays
- Event on 2/2 at the Westport Library – with Dick Rauh exhibit

### **Let's Connect February 7, 2023, from noon to 1:30pm**

**Save the Dates** have been sent to all arts organizations. The event will be at MOCA, and lunch will be provided. A discussion on the format for the event was decided. Guests are requested to be on time with a short welcome by Nancy, Liz, and Ruth. Guests will then pick up their lunch. This will be followed using the speed dating formula to help break the ice. Possible questions, "what does partnership look like" "what has happened since opening up since covid" The event will end with taking questions and summing up by Nancy and Shobana and a thank you to all for participating.

Lee and Richard to send Shobana additional names of arts organizations not on the list. Need to review invitation, one person from each organization to be invited. Marsha Selden catering will handle the food, Elizabeth offered to help as did Charles.

**New Business, how to buy/invest in art.**

Shobana has had discussions with Designport, a facebook, Instagram art marketplace for the interior design market and individuals. They hold events in private homes and large spaces for audiences who wish to learn about, and purchase art. Charles and Kathie offered to help. A possible date in April was discussed but not decided on to collaborate with Designport.

Overall the ideas is to do more casual smaller events in the run up to TEA talks in the fall.

**Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 12 noon Town Hall room 201**

Meeting adjourned at 12:55pm

Respectfully submitted

Elizabeth Strick, Secretary Westport Arts Advisory Committee