

The sub committee met virtually, via Zoom.

Present:

Sub Committee: Michael Eck, Stacey Bridge, Tommy Witz, Allen Kolver

WMHT: Joseph Tovaes, Michelle Thivierge, Sandra Beer, Matt Rogowicz,  
Zeke Kubisch, Mary Gribulis

Matt Rogowicz kicked off the meeting. He shared with the committee his work around the WMHT initiative “Art in Residence” sharing the stories of local creative business owners, artists, and musicians during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A link was sent out to the committee ahead of time for them to preview the content.

A robust discussion was had around the impact of the pandemic on the creative economy and the continued, if not growing need, for the arts in our world. We also discussed WMHT’s local show AHA! A House for Arts. And while not filming at the moment, since we are working remotely, we discussed the show’s important message and mission.

Next Sanda Beer discussed WMHT’s long standing relationship with New York State Council for the Arts (NYSCA). She shared about the continuation of that relationship for the next three years through a grant for WMHT’s filmmaker project TvFILM. 2020 is the 12th season for TvFILM.

TvFILM consists of six half hour broadcasts of juried films by local Upstate NY filmmakers. WMHT has received funding from NYSCA for TvFILM beginning in 2008. Given the recent three year grant from NYSCA, funding is secured for seasons 12, 13 and 14.

Zeke Kubisch shared a TvFILM clip with the committee prior to our meeting. Zeke and Sandra spoke about NYSCA supporting WMHT in our continued reach and grant flexibility to curate films from local artists/filmmakers, including a project featuring local artists who have been busy creating during COVID-19.

The sub committee members shared ways creative venues, including their own, are continuing to do their work. We discussed ways venues are sharing how they will “re-emerge” and “reimagine” their traditional offerings to the community. Members talked about stories of recovery, creativity and triumph in the midst of the pandemic.

The sub committee meeting ended at 4:45.

Minutes taken by Michelle Thivierge