AGM President’s Report November 2020 by Lynda Rogers

1. TO START WE HAVE A SLIDE UP OF THE ASK 15th Anniversary LOGO
2. SLIDE of AGENDA
3. SLIDE of FINANCIALS
4. SLIDE OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS SLATE

After the Business Portion of the meeting “We now proceed with the information presentation”

1. SLIDE OF PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Covid-19 has made this a challenging and unpredictable year as events were planned and then adjusted or cancelled.

Mayor Pellegrini, hosted a wonderful First Cultural Gala

1. SLIDE OF GALA

 an event meant to raise funds in support of all cultural groups in the Township. February 27th was as February as can be – it was a stormy evening, yet the fundraiser was well attended. ASK members worked along with Township staff to plan and bring in donations for the Silent Auction and other prizes. Our own Michele McNally, Vice-President of ASK, brilliantly emceed the event. Proceeds from the generous attendees supported Arts society King, The Historical Society, King Museum and The King Heritage & Cultural Centre. The township staff did an outstanding job coordinating this Gala on a short timeline. Thank you for this fundraiser and the support you show Arts Society King.

1. SLIDE OF MCYA, CHALLENGE, STUDIO TOUR, MUSIC

Covid-19!!! Very early in the year, plans began to change and then shut down. The much-anticipated Mayor’s Celebration of Youth Arts Show at the Municipal Offices was planned for March but, as Covid-19 spread it was pushed to April . . . and then May . . . and then sadly, it had to be canceled.

1. SLIDE of ECONOMIC KING, CCT & ASK LOGOS

ASK was invited by the King Township Economic Development Department to participate on a 10 week Tourism study **think-tank**. Central Counties Tourism conducted the workshop in an effort to find ways to enhance and sustain tourism business in the Township. The March report to council was postponed but we continue to keep in touch with this vital department.

1. SLIDE OF 2020 STUDIO TOUR POSTER

Meanwhile the 14th Annual Studio Tour committee and artists were working very hard on plans for this ASK signature event which would take place on April 25 and 26. The brochures and posters were printed and distributed but unfortunately, like many other public events, Covid-19 safety resulted in a cancelation. Everyone is looking forward to the 2021 Tour.

1. SLIDE OF POP-UP, SCHOMBERG GARDEN TOUR, KING’S FEET & STREET GALLERY

The same fate awaited other planned events - Live Music in King, Summer Blooms Pop-up Plant & Art Show, Schomberg Artists in the Garden Show, King’s Feet Underground Sound & Literary Festival, and the other signature art show in the fall, the Schomberg Street Gallery. Personal health, safety and prevention protocols took precedence and all social activities resulted in shutdowns to ward off the devastating march of the Covid-19 virus. Personal safety and virus prevention took precedence and all social activities shut down to ward off the devastating march of the Covid-19 virus.

1. SLIDE OF EN PLEIN AIR POSTERS

One bright event did manage to take place in October: The Autumn Reflections En Plein Air Competition. Artists had a two week period to paint a scene outdoors and then exhibit the result in an outdoor event.

1. SLIDE OF PHOTOS OF ARTISTS

 With great ingenuity, and constant challenges, the committee was able to make it happen! There were strict protocols; limited attendance; live-streaming; social distancing in an outdoor venue and masks for everyone. It was a great success with the artists, and was well “liked” on social media.

1. SLIDE OF CARRYING PLACE LOGO AND PHOTO

Another artistic event is currently taking place – an artist gallery exhibit partnership with Carrying Place Golf & Country Club; artists’ works are on exhibit and for sale in their clubhouse. A Call to Artists will go out in the new year for the next 3 month period of this exhibition opportunity.

1. SLIDE OF MOSAiC HEADER & ISSUES

Through all of the shutdowns, MOSAiC, a quarterly magazine which ASK contributors write and edit in conjunction with London Publishing Group, who does the advertising and distribution side, continues to feature pertinent stories that stir the imagination and feed the soul.

1. SLIDE OF MOSAiC COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A feature page in MOSAiC is the Community Calendar of Events. It has been a little thin this year but all the groups are working on next year. Fingers crossed the virus is under control and we can return to our much loved and anticipated community events.

1. SLIDE OF WRITENOW!@KING

Speaking of writing, our partnership with the King Township Public Library – WriteNow!@King has been ongoing – virtually – every other Thursday from 2 – 4 pm.

1. SLIDE OF ASK, INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK LOGOS

“The Arts” are a life saver for the world! Can you think what all this quarantine time would be like without . . . music, television programs, movies, Facebook, pursuit of art, baking, reading, performing for Tik Tok – just to name a few! The En Plein Air painters commented on past pandemics – one artist even depicted tombstones of those struck down by earlier epidemics. Art will tell the story of this difficult experience as time goes on.

1. SLIDE OF BOARD ZOOM PHOTO & WEBSITE

ASK continued to use this past year wisely, meeting by Zoom, email, and phone to continue plans for 2021 and update our website. New volunteers with amazing talents are coming forward to help with the popular eBlast, Facebook, Instagram, virtual technical skills, videography – the list goes on. Volunteers interested in the arts are the backbone of ASK.

1. SLIDE OF ASK PARTNER LOGOS

Thanks to the Township and particularly to the departments that support us directly. Your endorsement, practical assistance and help with logistics is invaluable and much appreciated. Thanks also to our amazing Board of Directors who soldiered on and came up with wonderful safe alternatives in difficult times. The coming year, 2021, will continue to offer unknown challenges but we have proven we are equal to the task and current technology is our friend.

1. SLIDE OF ASK SUPPORTER LOGOS

The generous grant from Capital Power was a major contribution that enable the entirely outdoor En Plein Air competition. Thank you. The financial stability of ASK as a not-for-profit society is supported by corporations, the Township of King, and donations from the public and local businesses. Partnerships enable ASK to be sustainable. Without this support we would not be able to fulfill our mission – arts programming that benefits all. Thank you to all for your continued support!

1. SLIDE OF ASK BOARD OF DIRECTORS PHOTO

1. SLIDE OF WEBSITE AND EMAIL