

The Arts Commission, Town of Hamden

Held an Informal Meeting via Zoom, on Wednesday, July 1, 2020. The following items were discussed:

Notes

Commissioners in Attendance: Ms. Johnson, , Ms. LBrown, Ms. Schiff, Ms. Gargiulo, Ms. Carter David, Ms. Elkin, Ms. Torello, Mr. Kortsep, Mr. Fernandez,

Commissioners Excused: Ms. Hunter, Ms. Jason, Mr. Moore, McGarry, Ms. Dbrown
Others in Attendance: Ms. Martindale, Ms. Buggie, Mr. Graham, Ms. Tobin

Mr. Fernandez called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Fernandez reported the following balances in the Commission's accounts:

Peter Hereld Account \$69,470.96, Saturday Series Account \$12,237.66, Gift Fund \$53,796.

New Business:

Poetry Program – Ms. Gargiulo reported that Hamden's poet laureate Franz Dousky is excited to be involved. Possibly a You Tube Video of people reading poems. Nothing has been sent out yet. We will send out a call for submissions. Ms. Gargiulo mentioned that most towns have poet laureates appointed by Mayors. She is not sure how long their terms are. Ms. Johnson asked about themes. Ms. Gargiulo mentioned something positive about Hamden might be good. Ms. Johnson asked that commissioners be included in the call letter.

Paint & Sip – Ms. Schiff spoke to Ms. Martindale. She also spoke to her daughter Karen who has done Paint and Sips via Zoom with adults. A packet would be made up for those wanting to attend including paint and an easel. Ms. Martindale needs someone to take the lead to work with her. Deb Dozier volunteered. There was further discussion including reaching out to a Hamden artist and whether the class should be for adults only or to include children. Commissioners agreed unanimously on a motion to spend up to \$500 for an artist to do an online Zoom Paint & Sip class by Ms. LBrown, seconded by Ms. Carter David. Ms. Johnson clarified that we will spend up to \$500 for an artist, and attendees would pay \$15 to the Arts Commission.

Farmer's Market

Ms. Martindale reported that the Town Center Park Commission is in charge of the Market. A minimal market will start June 30th based on State guidelines. The market will be set up in front of the Library and there will be access to restrooms. This is a soft opening. Facemasks must be worn and there will be one way walking and entrance and exit.

Because we can't have entertainment at the markets, our first entertainer instead of playing at the market, played at Mickey's. Ms. Martindale sent out his check today. There was discussion on whether or not to promote the entertainers at the restaurants, and it was decided that it would be up the restaurants to promote, since they know how many people they can accommodate, etc.

Ms. Gargiulo mentioned the Juneteenth event where 1000 people showed up in the parking lot near a venue not wearing masks. Ms. Martindale said the commission voted during the winter to support our Farmer's Market artists, which is what we are doing.

The last time we met we discussed handing out art kits to kids. Ms. Martindale spoke with Eric Nyquist, director of arts for Hamden Public Schools to connect with some of the art teachers regarding what to put in the art kit and some activity ideas. We will put art supplies in zip lock bags and hand them out at the Farmer's Market. The teachers are giving a list of summer activities to their students, which is a good start. Included in the kit will be a note saying these kits are being supplied courtesy of the Hamden Arts Commission in collaboration with Hamden Public Schools. Ms. Dozier knows a woman in Guilford that hands out art kits, and what used to cost \$5 to make now costs \$10.

There was discussion on teaching music lessons and a talent show on Zoom. Ms. D.Brown has drum classes at her library. Ms. Johnson will check with her. Ms. Johnson also volunteered to help put the kits together. Ms. Martindale hopes to get the material together for distribution next Thursday, and will need 50 kits to start. Ms. Dozier volunteered to man the table on some Thursdays and she will be there at 5:30 to set up.

New Business

Ms. Schiff is looking into Liberty Bank for our accounts. She has a packet from the bank for Ms. Martindale. Ms. Schiff said Liberty Bank always supports Arts Commission activities.

Film Series

Ms. Carter David said she thinks classic films would be best. We could have a Netflix Party on line. Hank from Best Video will co-sponsor and promote. Viewers would log off after the film is done and log onto Zoom for discussion.

Good and Welfare

Ms. Smith spoke to Ms. Jason the other day, and she seemed tired and in pain. She walks daily with a walker and has 24 hour help. Ms. Johnson spoke to her today and said she is homebound.

Ms. Hunter is now living with her daughter Kim Rice. Cards can be sent c/o Kime Rice, 113 Daniel Road, Hamden 06517.

Minutes from the June meeting were tabled to the August meeting for review.

Adjournment

Ms. LBrown made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Gargiulo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk