



TOWN OF HAMDEN OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Mayor

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The Arts Commission, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5, 2010 in the Activity Room, Miller Library Complex. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Loraine Brown, George Moore, Evelyn Skelly, Donna Elkin, Ricardo Henriquez, Lois Jason, Derek Mirabilio, Lisa DeGrand, Mark Peel, Sandy Schiff, Charles Kortsep, Tracy Nista

Excused Absences: Stacy Sandler, Willa Horowitz, Deb Dozier

Others in Attendance: Auxiliary Member Steve Graham
Arts Coordinator Mimsie Coleman
Commission Clerk Gerry Tobin

Mr. Moore called the meeting to order at 7:05

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Elkin made a motion to approve the minutes of March, 2010. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Coleman reported a total balance of \$50 left in all of the town line accounts with the exception of the salary account. There is \$59,000 in the gift account and \$14,500 in Saturday Series. The \$59,000 includes some of the summer concert sponsorship money but we haven't received any of the big donations to date.

2010 Budget Update

The Legislative Council voted unanimously to approve the Commission's budget request. We got \$3,000 extra in the summer concert line, extra money in professional/technical, and a raise for Joanie from \$8.30 to \$10 per hour.

Old Business

Disability Film Festival – The film festival was postponed to September. We applied for a grant from Community Foundation of Greater New Haven but were not eligible, but we are able to partner with Young Audiences, and they were able to get a grant for \$2,000, so it looks like this program will happen in the fall.

Salute to Young Artists May 10 and May 14th

Ms. Coleman distributed the invitations. 35 artists have registered this year. Volunteers are needed for the rehearsal and for the night of the showcase. Senator Crisco might not be able to join us but his office will provide citations.

Ms. Coleman said each visual artist is entitled to bring three works. Mr. Mirabilio will help hang the visual art works. Lisa DeGrand will also be able to help. People are needed to check in art work and watch performances and set up needs. Mr. Peel, Ms. Brown and Mr. Henriquez will also help. Ms. Schiff will buy paper goods. Ms. Sandler will put summer concert information on the web site and will do the rack card.

On the 14th, the reception in the social hall can't be set up until 4:30. Ms. Jason, Ms. Brown, Ms. DeGrand, Mr. Henriquez and Ms. Schiff will help. The middle School Food Electives Class will prepare reception food. They bring food after the school day and then come back to work. Mr. Jason, Ms. Dozier and Ms. Elkin will usher, Tom Conway will do sound and lights, Someone needed to pick up Mr. Moore at 4:15. Mr. Moore, Ms. Brown and Mr. Henriquez will be stage managers. Mr. Henriquez will photograph the program. The program starts at 7:00 p.m.

Cultural Resource Directory

Mr. Peel met with Ms. Coleman several weeks ago about the cultural resource directory. He has done a couple of projects like this in the past, and is interested in his kind of work. There will have to be a period of writing after the data collection. He believes the project will take a year to a year and a half. Then we will look at publishing it. He will develop a survey for information gathering.

Connecticut Local Arts Agency Grant

We have applied \$7,500 to cover Joanie's salary for half a year, and perhaps some could go for the Cultural Resource Directory and toward exhibition work. It will be necessary to catalog all art work in the government center. Ms. Coleman asked for permission to spend any excess funds. We will order fewer rack cards this year and start earlier. Ms. Brown said we should be able to look events up on the web site. Flyers have to go to the schools before the last day of school, probably on the 17th.

Ms. Brown made a motion to allow Ms. Coleman to spend excess funds. Ms. Jason seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Summer Concerts

Ms. Coleman reported that the Greg Rollie contract is on its way back. We are still waiting for the Daryl Hall contract. They are bringing their own opening act. We have to pay for their food and hotel. Ms. DeGrand said we don't want to mislead people in thinking

they are performing Hall and Oates songs if they are not. Ms. Coleman said they do plan to perform Hall and Oates music. Ms. Coleman said the Clarion has been a sponsor of our concerts and gives us good rates. This group wants two nights, and a total of 18 rooms.

There was discussion on hotel, food and other expenses for the groups. Mr. Mirabilio will assist Ms. Coleman in putting together a presentation for the Clarion for rooms.

There was discussion on fund raising for the concert series. It was suggested that the the Commission develop a goal for its fund raising. Ms. Coleman said she doesn't have a cost for the concerts so it is difficult to come up with a goal, but she will develop a budget. She will also prepare a letter for Commissioners that want to solicit businesses. Ms. Schiff brought up the subject of name tags that Commissioners can wear going to solicit from businesses.

Ms. Coleman mentioned that we have a new vendor that will sell barbeque. There is a group that promotes literacy in children that will give out books and perhaps read to kids before the concerts. Ms. Coleman has a sign up sheet for the summer concerts, and it is subject to change.

Ms. Coleman attached a list of things that her office is working on. Not on the list is the hanging of the mayoral photos at the government center. They have been re-framed and are being hung by Tom Conway, and the project is being paid for by a grant.

Ms. Coleman will be away May 24th through the 28th.

Utility Upgrades are being done hopefully through a grant LoCIP

Town Center Park Events – Matt Fitch, wants this committee to help support the Town Center Park Commission by bringing more events to Town Center Park. The Columbus Day Committee is interested in having a concert event in the park as part of their festivities. Ideas for a short film festival and an author/lecturer were suggested.

Ms. Coleman described several requests for events at the park.

Square Foot Theater – Jared Andrew is leasing space in the Plaza, and might divide it in half and have space for visual arts.

T Shirts

Ms. Elkin showed the mans version of the shirt in green. Commissioner will be embroidered on the back and the logo will just above the pocket on the front.

Commissioners chose the dark green shirt over the bright green.

Good & Welfare

Alexander was born to Ms. Schiff's daughter Friday night at 11:00 p.m. Big brother Max is 19 months old.

Mr. Mirabilio donated a piece to CT Trust, and their event will be held on the 25th or 27th of June, at 8 Main Street in the Hitchcock Gallery in Barkhamstead, Riverton. He will bring the flyer to the next meeting. Opening night will feature wine and hors d'oeuvres. Mentioned was made of the article on the Chronicle on Blessing Offer.

Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat is being performed at Hamden High School Thursday through Sunday.

Ms. Elkin mentioned the courtyard chalk show at the High School. She will let Commissioners know the dates.

Adjournment

Ms. Brown made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Nista seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk