

## HAMDEN ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, April 3 2013

7 pm: Miller Cultural Center Activity Room

Commissioners in Attendance: Stacy Sandler, Charles Kortsep, Marita Gargiulo, Tracy Nista, Lisa DeGrand, Loraine Brown, Lois Jason, Dona Elkin

Commissioners Excused: Evelyn Skelly, Ricardo Henriquez, Deb Dozier, Sandy Schiff

Ms. Jason reminded everyone that you can see her on May 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 p.m. on the Chiller Channel (153)

Call to Order

Ms. Jason called the meeting to order at 7:05

Approval of Minutes

**Ms. Sandler made a motion to approve the minutes of March 6, 2013. Ms. Nista seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Kortsep reported gift fund balance as of March 25<sup>th</sup> of \$48,501.14. The Saturday Series account as of March 25<sup>th</sup> has a balance of \$18,528.50. The second sheet of the agenda shows town line account balances of \$1,490 in temporary wages and \$1,200 in advertising. There are zero balances in all other town line accounts.

Mayor's Budget

There were not many changes in the Mayor's proposed budget from what Ms. Coleman presented. Department heads received emails from Curt Leng, CAO, saying if the budget impacts what they do, call him. Ms. Coleman pointed out that Ms. DeGrand is doing a phenomenal job, and She is looking for an increase for her. Revenue expectations have been added to Recreation. Ms. Gargiulo asked questions about the budget revenue vs. expenses. Expenses are more than revenue. Ms. Coleman said that the budget has to balance town wide, not individual departments.

Old Business

Saturday Series: Pumpernickel Puppets (March 16) – good audience, no report on income.

Sunday Series: St. Luke's Steel Band (March 3) they have a new conductor, and the repertoire was changed due to the new CD. We want their old style next time.

Salute to Young Artists: Rehearsal (May 9); Event (May 17)

Ms. DeGrand reported that we have 28 people total. Last year we had 25. We have one nomination from the Coop and one from ECA. There was discussion on allowing competitors that are not seniors.

Sprout Film Festival, with Young Audiences of CT: May 31

Mimsie said we are sharing the expense with Young Audiences and the Commission on Disability Rights & Opportunities. Commissioners will each bring something for a reception. The film festival starts at 7:00 p.m.

## Summer Concerts

### Performers updates:

Ms. Coleman reported that all contracts are fully executed and have been returned to her except Starship which is on its way. The Navy Band NE would play for us but their funds have been cut due to the sequestration. They will not be able to travel more than 50 miles, and they are located in Rhode Island. The Commissioners agreed to offer mileage costs.

### Opening Acts

There are 36 groups that want to perform for us. The Zombies will perform on July 5<sup>th</sup>, There is a group that we promised to consider last year. Blessing is releasing his first formal DC, and the record company is helping him schedule concerts. He will be in CT in July. His style is pop, and he feels he would be a good opener for the doo wop show. Commissioners agreed. A musician walked into Ms. Coleman's office the other day and gave her two CD's to put in the pile. He is a singer with the Five Satins. Ms. Coleman said he is phenomenal. He wants to open for us, and Ms. Coleman felt he would be a good opener for Eddie Money. She will schedule a meeting, listen to parts of two songs from each candidate, then bring information to the committee. Ms. Coleman will be out of town from 4/12 to 4/16. Ms. Sandler suggested commissioners take home some CDs and listen to them and bring their suggestions to a meeting. Commissioners agreed. The meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 in Ms. Coleman's office.

### New Vendors

Ms. DeGrand said we have one new vendor that we have committed to, The Spuds Truck. We also have Sugar Bakery, Firedog, and DiSorbo's. There was discussion on having a pizza person. We can't have competition between the vendors. On the contract we will write every item each vendor has. We can't have too many vendors for the concerts. Ms. DeGrand said if we have Glenwood again, we need to have some uniformity. Ms. Coleman said we don't use them for the concerts.

### National Anthem

Ms. Coleman said she has received a call from a gentleman from North Haven who would like us to have the National Anthem sung at our concerts. After discussion, the commissioners recommended not having the National Anthem sung at the concerts.

### Painted Furniture

There was discussion on whether or not to have the painted furniture auction. Ms. Nista said it is a big event and kind of daunting. Ms. Sandler doesn't have time to do it right now because of the extended school year. She will talk to the person in charge at the high school. Ms. DeGrand has the list of who took pieces to paint. Ms. Coleman said perhaps we can slowly collect and/or make things and keep this event in mind for a later date.

### Coordinator's report

Ms. Coleman reported that Ms. Skelly has been having some good days and some bad days.

Ms. Dozier's brother passed away out of state, which is why she is not here this evening.

Ms. Tobin's brother passed away out of state and the funeral will be held in Florida next week.

The Business Expo will be held at Hamden High School from 11:00 a.m. To 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Jason will be there to hand out flyers.

Ms. Elkin reported that after prom is collecting usable clothes and shoes on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> in the Parkway side of the high school. The will be paid by the pound and will collect both usable and unusable clothing and shoes.

Mr. Mirabilio might be moving back to CT. He isn't sure yet. He will swing by next week when he is

in town for an appointment and talk to Ms. Coleman.

New Business/Ideas/Good & Welfare

Ms. Jason sent emails about Jeff Fuller's performance Thursday night.

Ms. Nista asked if everyone has heard about the rainbow installation coinciding with New Haven's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This is a laser show originating on top of east rock. You can see it on Google.

Adjournment

**Ms. DeGrand made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk