

HAMDEN ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, June 4, 2014

7 pm: Miller Cultural Center Activity Room

Commissioners in Attendance: Tracy Nista, Loraine Brown, Lois Jason, Donna Elkin, Cheryl Riello, Sandy Schiff, Charles Kortsep, Janet Hunter, Marita Gargiulo, Debora Dozier

Commissioners Excused: Lisa DeGrand, Ricardo Henriquez, Jim Brewster

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

Call to Order

Ms. Jason called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of May 7, 2014. Ms. Gargiulo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Kortsep reported a balance of \$29,174.83 in the gift fund and \$16,325 in the Saturday Series account as of May 25th. The Town lines accounts are reported on Page 2 of the agenda.

Ms. Coleman reported that we will pay Eric Nyquist \$200 for his help at the Salute to Young Artists event.

There was discussion on the 911 Memorial to be located at the International Union of Operating Engineers building on Dixwell Avenue. The Memorial will be centered around a steel beam from the World Trade Center buildings. Marvin Michaelson did the architectural drawing for the memorial and we will pay him \$500 from our Special Projects account.

Old Business

Legislative Council approved budget

The 2014-2015 Arts Commission budget is on Page 3 of tonight's handout. We have an increase in our Special Projects account from last year of \$9,000 and an increase in our Special Programs account of \$5,000. We will also be able to increase Ms. DeGrand's office hours from 15 per week to 19 hours per week.

Salute to Young Artists post event analysis

Ms. Elkin said this event was amazing as always. Ms. Brown said the people on stage wonderful to work with. Ms. Coleman said they did this as a favor even though we paid them. Ms. Coleman thanked them and said they are two professionals who own their own companies. Ms. Dozier said the entertainment was good. Ms. Schiff thought it was a great evening as always. She felt the lights should have been up at the beginning. She liked the way they brought the visual artists up on stage for their awards, instead of on the floor in front of the stage. We had 24 honorees. There were more nominations, but we didn't accept any juniors.

Summer concerts

Opening acts booked

The opening act committee has announced the following: For the Fifth Dimension, Twilight Nuages; for the Platters, Boogie Chillin'; for Fran Cosmo – Beach Avenue; and for Dave Mason's Traffic Jam Tour – Remember

September. Opening Acts begin at 7:20 or 7:30. The weather forecasts for this summer have not been good, but we might rent an air conditioner for the tent. We usually get a 20' x 30' tent. Commissioners will check several local companies for requirements and prices. The vendor will be announced on the commission's web site and from the stage, and next year on the rack cards.

Legal requirements re: Fran Cosmo

Ms. Coleman said this has been worked out.

Status of sponsorships (Inner City)

Inner City wants to give us \$5000 of free advertising as a sponsor

Hospitality Needs/ Schedule committee meeting

Ms. Coleman said we do not have a hospitality list for the Platters as yet. Ms. Jason has a \$50 gift card from shop right. Walgreen is coming and will take photos for a donation.

Dance plans

The dance will take place at the July 25th or August 1st concert. There are three rehearsal dates on Tuesdays July 1, July 8 and July 22 from 6-8. The dance will take place at 7:00 and participants are asked to arrive at 6:00 p.m. Rehearsals will be held at Joni's studio, 109 Sanford Street or Thornton Wilder Hall.

Banner/Rack cards/distribution/ advertising

Ms. Coleman said we will order some rack cards. The sponsor information is current, the rack cards are designed except for the sponsor information. Ms. Coleman asked if commissioners felt we should take out a couple of radio spots. Commissioners suggested several radio stations and TV's Channel 8.

Fireworks

Hospitality and Dinner for Navy Band Northeast (35 member orchestra)

Ms. Jason will go to Giovanni's and Ms. Schiff will speak to Tonino,s. The Veterans Commission is donating a cake with the Navy insignia. We still need salad and bread. The band is coming from Rhode Island and returning there the same night.

Ms. Schiff mentioned the identification (volunteer) cards to hang on the rear view mirror. Ms. Dozier will make the cards. Ms. Coleman said we won't have our fancy security badges because we no longer have Dave Richards. Commissioners need some kind of identification badges.

Volunteers for collecting money/distributing fliers

Coordinator's Report

Approval of \$1,250 expenditure

Ms. Coleman said there is a golf cart that the CERT Team is going to purchase from the company we rent from for our concerts. It seats six. The cost is \$4,500. \$2,000 is coming from the Parks Department, \$1,250 is coming from the Town Center Park account and Ms. Coleman is asking for a donation from our Special Projects account. **Ms. Dozier made a motion to approve the \$1,250 expense. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

\$150 arts council membership – Ms. Elkin made a motion to approve the \$150 Arts Council Membership fee. Ms. Dozier seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

There was discussion on the purchase of shirts for the new auxiliary members.

New Business/Ideas

Hereld Gift Fund Issue – Ms. Coleman will transfer the funds from Webster Bank to Quinnipiac Bank tomorrow.

Ms. Coleman said the Buckley's address is unlisted. She would like to deliver the certificate of thanks.

Joe Galluzzi – Mr. Galluzzi's significant other contributed \$25 to the concert series in his memory. Also, the Hamden Tax Office has made a donation in memory of Connie Vitale. At the Platters concert when Mr. Moore (hopefully) is making announcements, he will mention those donations. The commission will donate a brick on behalf of Mr. Galluzzi and John Nolan will engrave the brick.

Good & Welfare

Ms. Brown ran into Mr. Peel who sent greetings to the commissioners. He has new twin grand daughters.

The hospitality committee will set up a meeting.

Adjournment

Ms. Jason made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Nista seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk