

ARTS COMMISSION

MINUTES: The Hamden Arts Commission held a Special Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 30, 2010 in the Activity Room, Miller Library Complex, following a pot luck supper. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Sandra Schiff, Lois Jason, Donna Elkin, Mark Peel, Stacy Sandler, Deborah Dozier, Loraine Brown, Lisa DeGrand, (Tracy Nista), Charles Kortsep, Ricardo Henriquez, Derek Mirabilio

Commissioners Excused: George Moore, Evelyn Skelly

Call to Order:

Ms. Jason called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Review of Minutes:

Ms. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 3rd meeting. Ms. Elkin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Monthly statements were not available. Ms. Coleman said the Commission is in the same state as last month only worse.

Programs:

Disability Film Workshop

Ms. Coleman reported that the film is complete, and runs for 20 minutes. It will be premiered on 1/13 or 14th at Thornton Wilder. The videographer did a nice job and the participants were enchanting. The Film is being sent to the film festival in NY to see if it will be accepted.

Bubblemania

Ms. DeGrand reported a great attendance, over capacity, at Bubblemania. This is a very successful program and the Commission might think about having two shows if we have him back. Ms. Coleman said we could set up seating differently. \$1,244 brought in, and we paid him \$545, for a profit of about \$650. We should have someone stationed at the stage steps to keep people away from there, as he had to ask people to move several times.

Mr. Punch's Christmas Carol,

This program begins at 3:00 p.m. On December 4th. Volunteers should arrive at 2:15p.m. Ms. Jason, Ms. DeGrand, Iris and Ricardo will handle box office.

Sunday Series

Dance Demonstration

Ms. Jason said the performers worked hard, the audience liked them, and the seniors in the audience loved the program. The Commission took in \$1,074 and paid the performers \$150, for a profit of \$924. Commission felt it should book this couple again.

Friar & Balaban, who according to Ms. Coleman are very good, are coming on January 23rd.

Silver Bells

December 4th at Town Center Park. Mr. Peel, Mr. Henriquez and his friend, Mr. Kortsep, Mr. Conway and Mr. Graham (until 10:00 and returning later) will help with set up on the field, and should meet at 9:30 a.m.

Ms. Dozier, Ms. Brown, Ms. Elkin (after 3:00) and Mr. Kortsep will be available to work in the tents. Tents will be open from 2:00 p.m. To 6:00 p.m.

There was discussion on heaters, and the ones the Commission purchased last year can't be used in the tents. Ms. Coleman will check on renting heaters that blow warm air into the tent from the outside. There was discussion on returning Silver Bells to indoors once Memorial Town Hall reopens.

Ms. Coleman will pay for the carousel on Friday morning. Jordan and Taylor Jacques will light the tree and the choir will perform at 4:15 p.m. Santa arrives at 4:30 p.m. via fire truck. More people are required to help with the tent activities. GUILT A FRIEND! to help at Silver Bells. One of the potential Commissioners might help out at with face painting. Mr. Henriquez, Mr. Peel and Mr. Graham will help with take down

Summer Concerts

The Tower of Power agent called Ms. Coleman back and said they are still trying to book around us. They should be able to let us know by next week. Commissioners will submit ideas for bands for 2011.

Cultural Resource Directory

Mr. Peel said this is a complicated undertaking. He and Ms. Coleman started the process last spring and had a couple of meetings. They both believe we have to do this properly, and once we have the initial launch of the directory, get it up and running, designed and accessible – then what. After that happens, after some of us move on, how will the directory be maintained. Mr. Peel doesn't envision this product needing a lot of maintenance, but there has to be a commitment. They developed a couple of survey instruments to solicit input from people/organizations for the next several months. The Commission will stay involved in approving organizations, etc. We must be proactive in defining the quality of this product. Mr. Peel passed around the nomination form which includes space for giving a reason for nominating a person. There is another form for nominating an organization. There will also be an Internet version of the survey.

Mr. Henriquez has several concerns, and he would like to see a process in writing as to a time line, update process, etc. Ms. Dozier asked if we could find a grant to get someone to manage the web site for us. Ms. Coleman feels there is great value in getting the first edition written because there is no one who knows all of the cultural riches in Hamden. There was further discussion on the Cultural Resource Directory. Mr. Peel said for the initial process, a subcommittee of the Commission is proposed that would assist in the evaluation of nominations. Anyone interested should talk to Ms. Coleman. There should be two people in addition to him. Ms. Schiff suggested we add a line for the name of the person nominating. She asked if we should start with the organizations in Town and then add the individuals. Mr. Peel said the next nomination sheet will be for organizations.

Coordinators Report

Ms. Coleman reported that Peter Herreld started raising funds for the Commission for his 90th birthday. He requested donations in multiples of 11, and has raised over \$900 for the Commission.

New Business

Ms. Elkin reported that her nephew donated shirts for the Commission. Ms. Coleman will write to Joel Cobden and thank him for his generosity. We will also list him as a summer concert sponsor.

Adjournment

Ms. Dozier made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Clerk of the Commission