

ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA

Meeting of Wednesday, April 13, 2011

7 pm: Miller Center Social Hall

Commissioners in Attendance: Tracy Nista, Evelyn Skelly, Mark Peel, Charles Kortsep, Lisa DeGrand, Donna Elkin, Lois Jason, Loraine Brown, Derek Mirabilio

Commissioners Excused: George Moore, Ricardo Henriquez, Deborah Dozier, Sandy Schiff and Stacy Sandler

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

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Elkin made a motion to approve the minutes of March 2, 2011. Mr. Mirabilio seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Kortsep reported balances of \$15,000 in the Saturday Series Account, \$56,132.08 in the gift fund; Town lines - Temp Wages \$385; Advertising \$57.50; and special programs \$200

Old Business

Arts, Recreation, Culture Department as of July 1, 2011

Ms. Coleman said a new Department has been created called Arts, Recreation and Culture, and will be effective July 1, 2011. The Legislative Council has approved the budget for this Department. As of tomorrow, Ms. Coleman will be looking into details as to what this department is all about. Ms. Brown is looking forward to the new opportunities. Ms. Nista said Ms. Coleman will have a lot more hands to help. Ms. Coleman assured the Commissioners that the Arts Commission will remain intact. There was further discussion.

Saturday Series

Sir George & The Dragon (March 5)

Ticket sales for this performance were \$961. The Saturday Series profit for the season was \$1,012.

Sunday Series

Celebration of Irish Music (3/20)

Ticket sales for this program were \$915. The Sunday Series made a profit of \$1,653 for the season.

Ms. Jason said we tried to keep the Sunday Series the comfort zone concerts. Ms. Coleman congratulated Ms. DeGrand and Ms. Jason the two committee chairs.

Other programs

Newington Children's Theatre "Beauty and the Beast (3/18) was very successful.

Movie Night

Movie nights were mostly successful with a couple of glitches.

Cultural Resource Directory Update

Mr. Peel said the subcommittee has met and reviewed the first ten nominations for the Directory. The web page design phase has begun. He also said that the first twenty or so Hamden Notables, mostly historical figures who have made a

significant cultural contribution, had been identified through research and will also be reviewed by the subcommittee. He hopes to share some of the progress at a forthcoming Commission meeting. He stated that the nature of the Director and the Notables feature will always be “works in Progress” because they will always require updating with new entries of either local resources or individuals.

Mr. Peel was contacted by a reporter from the Hamden Patch, an on-line newspaper, and the reporter interviewed Ms. Coleman and himself. Mr. Peel said we are well underway. When the Directory is ready to launch, we will have Ann DeMatteo do a feature on the list of artists and notables.

CT Commission Local Arts Agency (LAA) Conference

Mr. Mirabilio reported on a conference he attended last Wednesday titled Network 2.0. He said it was very educational for him to see what is going on at the State level with the arts and regional, statewide and local changes. The goal was to start a conversation with everyone in your tiers/area. We are a tier 3 of 3. New Haven Arts Council is a tier 1. Tiers 2 and 3 sat together to discuss some strategies, approaches, etc. Some of the items discussed were a joint/central calendar for everyone to advertize through; a state wide technology infrastructure for information sharing; statewide research; identifying audience; who provides what and where; structure/consolidate; how to reach people under age 40 – social networking; relationships to be developed throughout the tiers; stronger bonds with other agencies throughout the state; how to help artists – who has what; the economics of scale; and coordinated efforts to maximize limited budgets. A google group was launched that day meant for communication among arts organizations. How to start communication was discussed – have an event in a town where people can be invited to see what Hamden has – i.e. place location

Salute to Young Artists (5/20 – Rehearsal May 12th (3–5)

Volunteer Signups

Ms. Brown was back stage manager last year did a great job working with Tom Conway who was out front. Mr. Mirabilio will be stage manager. Ms. Jason, Ms. Elkin and Ms. DeGrand will help and Mr. Mirabilio will help hang artwork (22 pieces).

The program begins at 7:00 p.m. on May 20th. A list of participants was distributed in tonight's packet. There are 19 performances (1 dancer) 11 visual artists.

Summer concerts

Schedule cannot be publicized yet because we are still waiting for two contracts to be returned. Ms. Coleman is hoping to finalize the schedule by Saturday.

Business Expo

Business Expo will take place at Hamden High School on Saturday, April 16th. Ms. Coleman and Joanie will be there handing out Arts Commission flyers. Ms. Coleman needs reimbursement of \$50 for the space and \$16.50 for the display board.

Mr. Peel made a motion for the Commission to reimburse Ms. Coleman for her expenses for the Business Expo in the amount of \$66.50. Ms. Nista seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Coordinator's report

Ms. Coleman reported that Donald Hall, the national poet laureate in 2006, is coming to Hamden next September. The Arts Commission will help in some way.

New business ideas/good & welfare

Ms. Jason said she saw Jay Black doing a great job on TV recently. Eddie Money is coming to the Wolf Den. Ms. Elkin reported that the Hamden High School Art Show is this week, and the High School play this spring (May) is Chicago.

Adjournment

Ms. Nista made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Peel seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk