

# Arts Commission

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 7pm

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This meeting was held via Zoom. **Zoom recording available:**

<https://zoom.us/rec/share/m2-NQDMG9j0LqQsapfwYP-y5KqBW1n6i8OxnsqhlTvEIDHtwponqvlfT9mCY-pna.TyvhnJnariURJHfx>

**Access Passcode:** k?y62!uk

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## Call to Order

Ms. Elkin called the meeting to order at 7:18pm.

## Commission Members

Donna Elkin- *Vice Chair*

Loraine Brown

Siobhan Carter-David

Marita Gargiulo

Jennifer McGarry

Alex Mickens

## Others in Attendance

Alisha Martindale – *Arts and Marketing Manager*

Alyssa Bussard – *Substitute Commission Clerk*

## Agenda

### Approval of March 2, 2021 Minutes

Vice Chairperson Elkin called for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on March 2, 2021. The motion was made by Ms. Gargiulo and seconded by Ms. McGarry. The motion passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

Ms. Martindale reported the following account balances: Peter Hereld Account balance is \$69,572, the Gift Fund balance is \$52,149, and the Saturday Series balance is \$12,238.

## Old Business

There was no old business to report.

## Chair's Report

There was no report at this time.

## Director's Report

### 1. Salute to Young Artists Update

There was no update at this time.

### 2. Poetry in the Garden at the Keefe Center

Ms. Martindale told the commission that there will be a poetry program in the community garden at The Keefe Center on May 12 at 6pm. Ms. Martindale reiterated that The Keefe Community Center is a great resource in town and that she would like to use it more to host various programs. She also reported that The Hamden Library will have a table at this event and they will be bringing packets of seeds to give out to promote their new seed library. Additionally, the library will be taking the haikus submitted and creating bookmarks with them.

### 3. The MLK Mural

Ms. Carter-David reported that a sub-committee met the week prior to discuss the MLK mural. Hamden will be partnering with RiseUP For Arts (<https://www.ctmurals.com/mlkmurals>) to join 39 communities in Connecticut who will be creating 39 murals to honor the 39 years of Martin Luther King Jr.'s life. The mural will be 20X50 feet and there was a discussion on where in Hamden the mural would best fit. RiseUp works to determine who the town would like to showcase on the mural in addition to MLK. If there is another social movement leader then they can also be added to the mural. Ms. Martindale explained that the total cost of the mural is around \$15,000. Sustainable CT will pay for half of this and Ms. Martindale

stated that this will also give the town sustainable CT points. The other half of the cost is expected to be paid by the community of Hamden. There can be funds given to this project from the Town as well as other sponsors. There will also be an opportunity for two apprentice artists from the town to take part in creating the mural. There may be a vote in the future regarding the Arts Commission being a sponsor for this project.

## New Business and Ideas

### 1. Thornton Wilder Poetry Contest

Ms. Gargiulo spoke about the Thornton Wilder Poetry Contest for which she was a judge. She explained that there were three prizes for poetry and three prizes for prose. The first prize for prose was awarded to a Hamden High School tenth grader. There is information about the contest on the Hamden Library website. In lieu of an in-person event, there will be an online presentation on May 20 at 7pm. Ms. Gargiulo will send the information on how to access the event to the commission members.

### 2. Pop-Up Events

Ms. Martindale stressed that she would like the commission to co-host as many pop-up events as possible. She reiterated that she wants to hear commission members ideas and how she can make them work as a liaison for the town. There was a discussion regarding doing art kits again this year. It will be added to the agenda for next month.

### 3. Other

There are talks about combining a food giveaway and vaccination event at Keefe Center. The goal is to host this on May 27, 2021.

## Good and Welfare

Nothing to report at this time.

## Adjournment

Vice Chairperson Elkin called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Ms. Gargiulo and seconded by Ms. McGarry. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.