

**TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD
FINE ARTS COMMISSION
50 Chapman Place
EHCCC
East Hartford, CT 06108
MINUTES
Meeting of January 9, 2014**

Chair. Florence Schroeter called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Terrye Blackstone, Judy Okeson, Betty Russell, Dan Russell, Glynis McKenzie, Maureen Rodgers, Regina Barall, and Florence Schroeter.

ABSENT: Prescille Yamamoto, (Excused), Susan Tukey, (Excused), Karen Howe (Excused), and Hilde O'Brien (Excused).

II. MINUTES MOTION:

Motion – Judy Okeson moved to accept December 12, 2013 minutes.

Seconded - Maureen Rodgers

Discussion - Corrections: December 12, 2014 minutes.

50th Anniversary – Change old to check into the archives.

Change Marsha to “Marcia.

Remove old to Dan Russell will look into his minutes.

EHSYF –Remove is to the Christmas Cards are in the works.

Music – Remove Judy Okeson to The cost was questioned.

Add Florence Schroeter reported the piano will need to be tuned.

Sounds of Summer - Change Judy Okeson to Betty Russell will check into the cost.

Holiday Fest - Change snowman to snowmen.

New Business: Eliminate Florence Schroeter reported that the piano needs to be tuned.

Add no report

Motion Carried 1 Abstention

III. CHAIR'S REPORT: Florence Schroeter introduced Suzanne Lowell to the meeting as a potential new member.

Florence Schroeter reported she called Mayor Marcia LeClerc's office and spoke with Jessica regarding the Resolution. Jessica reported the Resolution has been postponed and will be at the Town Council's meeting on January 21, 2014.

Florence Schroeter discussed with the Commissioners to have Room 104 for the Fine Arts Commission meetings throughout the year. Consensus was unanimous and she will book Room 104 for the remaining calendar year and report confirmation at the next meeting.

Florence Schroeter inquired that there use to be an ensemble in town known as the “Q and Curtin” that did three shows a year at Sunset Ridge School, and one of the shows was “Everybody love's Opal.” Glynis McKenzie said there was an original Q and Curtin in the 1960's/1970's and revived it in 1990's at Sunset Ridge. Glynis McKenzie thinks that Joan Coates, who retired about 5 years or so from the University of Hartford, knows more about the group.

Florence Schroeter was talking with Courtney Collins from Parks and Rec regarding an artist named Joseph Dagonia. He is a multi talented artist who would like to host a visual art exhibition and would like to know the next step to host the exhibition. Florence Schroeter delegated Dan Russell to follow up on Joseph Dagonia.

- IV. CORRESPONDENCE:** First Congregational Church sent Florence Schroeder a bill from Ken Lawhorn for two piano tunings in the amount of \$230.00 dated December 6, 2013. The Fine Arts Commission share will be \$115.00.

Terrye Blackstone reported she received a calendar of events from the Wadsworth Atheneum . On January 16, 2014 Biographer Deborah Solomon will talk about her new biography of Norman Rockwell's "American Mirror" at the Wadsworth Atheneum.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Drama / Lecture / Poetry: Maureen Rodgers reported she is continuing to work on a date for the Elizabeth Thomas program.

Art: Terrye Blackstone reported she is still following up for an Artist who does animals and also projecting to look for someone we had in the past, who does sculptures with clay. Only this time, we want a hands-on program when everybody comes to make things for themselves. We hope to have this for the February and March, 2014 programs.

Children's Program: Regina Barall reported that she is coordinating with the Library programs during the vacations. Since the February vacation is short, what they decided to do is the entire April vacation week and getting together with various people. She has teachers lined up, is looking into 3 different kinds of movements starting with ballet, which is the cornerstone of dance, then looking into contemporary and modern dance. They did not want to limit the entire program to dance and added art so that everyone gets something out of it working with various Artists. The Library is deciding on the times for the events. Regina Barall will be meeting with the Library next month to further discuss the programs.

Dan Russell reported years ago, the Fine Arts Commission sponsored a program "The Puddle of Wonderful Players" where one or two teachers coached theater, the children put on programs which were designed for children, and were very successful. He suggested that the Commissioners look into future programs. Florence Schroeter reported that the program should be "Pre Summer Youth."

Willowbrook: Regina Barall reported that the ballet program was fabulous, was fortunate to start the program in September, 2013, and were able to stretch it out into January, 2014. The program was so successful that a repeat performance was requested. Regina Barall said she will ask the Fine Arts Commission to check their budget if there are additional funds available to continue the program.

Dance: Regina Barall reported that New Covenant United Methodist Church had sponsored a Thanksgiving for anyone who is Hispanic and is working with the Hispanic teachers in the Middle School. Lisa McMahon , CC Coordinator at the East Hartford Middle School's Community Center, is working on the Thanksgiving program which has been successful.

Regina Barall reported she met with Rev. Gary and two other Trustees of the New Covenant United Methodist Church regarding Black History Month. They were told that the Fine Arts Commission cannot fund the dinner, and they were explained to on what the Commission covers. A Celebration of Black History Month is scheduled for February 15, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. She also reported that Rev. Gary would like to continue to work with the Fine Arts Commission on future programs.

Glynis McKenzie reported the date coincides with the Fine Arts Commission Films Series. An option was offered to Regina Barall to have the date changed or coordinate the timing of the event, having the performance at 3:00 p.m. followed by the dinner. The Film Series movie is scheduled to start at 7:00 p.m. Regina Barall will follow up and report at the next meeting.

EHPS Mini-Grants: Betty Russell reported that she was thrilled to hear from Laura White, who has invited the Fine Arts Commission to all the awarded mini-grant programs. Laura White will e-mail the dates of the events. Carnegie Hall is scheduled in May and is working on bus transportation.

E.H.S.Y.F.: Glynis McKenzier had no report at this time and reported that the committee will be meeting next week.

Sounds of Summer: Betty Russell reported she will talk with Ted Fravel, Director of Parks and Rec, in February, when they start booking the performances, regarding the Nautilus Brass Quartet. She will also check into the banner.

Music: Florence Schroeter reported that First Paul Bisaccia is scheduled to perform a solo concert, Stars and Stripes. The American Piano, at First Congregational Church on Saturday, May 3, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. His fee will be \$850.00.

Terrye Blackstone questioned the Fine Arts Commission about co-sponsorship at the Olmsted Series. Glynis McKenzie reported that she has it on her calendar to call in February.

Holiday Fest: No report. Remove from agenda.

50th Anniversary: Maureen Rodgers reported Robert Pasek, Town Clerk, could only come up with 1963-1964 reports which did not say a lot when the Fine Arts Commission first started. Thanks to Peter Brennan, John Brennan's son, he went through paper work his father had and she had printed it out for the Fine Arts Commissioners. First of all it was February 18, 1964 where the first Fine Arts Commissioner was appointed, and on October 6, 1964 Lillian Goodberg reported on what they have done in their first year of existence. Maureen Rodgers also received from Peter Brennan the Ordinance establishing the Fine Arts Commission. She has called Mayor Marcia LeClerc's office and left a message to take off the Resolution in January because it wasn't establish and coordinate the date when the Fine Arts Commission actually started. She wanted to make sure the Town Council Resolution coincides with the date.

Terrye Blackstone reported that Mayor Blackstone gave a Proclamation, dated the 5th of October 1979, to the Fine Arts Commission on their 15th Anniversary year stating it was established on October 20, 1964.

Florence Schroeter asked Maureen Rodgers to Sub-Chair the 50th Anniversary.

Regina Barall asked for a consensus on a date. March was the consensus date. Maureen Rodgers and Glynis McKenzie will check into a Town Council Recognition date.

VI. OLD BUSINESS: No report. Remove Election of Officers from the Agenda.

Motion: Judy Okeson moved to remove Election of Officers from the Agenda

Seconded: Maureen Rodgers

Unanimously Approved

VII. NEW BUSINESS: Florence Schroeter reported the meeting dates for the 2014 Calendar year are as follows:

January 9, 2014

February 13, 2014

March 13, 2014

April 10, 2014

May 8, 2014

June 12, 2014

July 10, 2014

August, 2014 – No meeting per past practice

September 11, 2014
October 9, 2014
November 13, 2014
December 11, 2014

Motion: Terrye Blackstone to accept the meeting dates
Seconded: Judy Okeson
Motioned Carried

VIII. APPROVAL OF BILLS:

S 115.00	Ken Lawhorn – Piano Services (Piano tuning)
S 80.00	Judith Beeman – Clerk Fee
\$1,500.00	CircleLife ArtsForAll, Inc. (Black History Month)

Motion: Maureen Rodgers moved to pay bills.
Seconded: Glynis McKenzie
Unanimously approved

The invoice for IFC which was approved for payment at the December 12, 2013 meeting in the amount of \$250.00 was recently received and given to the Finance Dept. for payment along with the January 9, 2014 bills. The invoice was for the film "Flame and Citron to be viewed on April 19, 2014.

IX. MEMBERS CONCERNS: Betty Russell, Dan Russell, Maureen Rodgers and Florence Schroeter will be away and will not be attending the February 13, 2014 Fine Arts Commission meeting.

Florence Schroeter urged that the meeting's minutes be submitted to the Town Clerk's office within 7 days after the meeting.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Maureen Rodgers
Seconded: Betty Russell adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.
Unanimously Approved

The next meeting of the Fine Arts Commission Meeting will be held **on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the EHCCC 50 Chapman Place, East Hartford, CT Room 104.**

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Beeman.
Clerk