

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

November 17, 2015

Meeting Minutes

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission held a meeting on Tuesday November 17, 2015, at Town Hall South.

Members Present: Robert Rabinowitz, Laura Lerman, Jen Rogers, Jen Cebry, Andrea Spencer, Donna Mangiafico, Rob Kaiser, Donna Randle

Members Absent: John Conk

Auxiliary Members: Terry Sagedy, Elaine Barbera, Maureen Trotto, Linda Parsloe, Lisa Schwartz

Guests: Burt Parsloe, Hanna Rohr, Peggy Murphy, Sharon Matthews

Laura Lerman called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

- Minutes: Minutes of Special (Arts Festival) October 8, 2015, NCAC meeting, approved unanimously
- Minutes: Minutes of September 22, 2015, NCAC meeting, approved unanimously
- Officers Report:
 - Laura Lerman (Chair): None
 - Andrea Spencer (Vice Chair): None
 - Robert Rabinowitz (Secretary): None
- Treasurer's Report (Donna Mangiafico)
 - Town covered the cost of the police for the Arts Festival
 - Discussion of financial details of 2015 Newtown Arts Festival
 - Motion by Donna M to reimburse Linda Parsloe \$417.43 out gift fund for printing, second by Jen R. Approved unanimously.
- Newtown Community Center Presentation
 - Discussion of Community Center Survey Results
 - Discussion of NCAC presentation to NCCC (Community Center Commission)
- NCAC Scholarships and Grants
 - No updates
- Film Festival (Jen R)
 - The next films are:
 - Dec 13th (Sound of Music) – last show for 2015
 - This year's series has been quite successful... attendance has been great
 - Edmond Town Hall has agreed to continue having the films in 2016 but on Thursdays
 - NCAC wants to continue sponsoring the film festival, with Jen R as auxiliary member (stepping down at end of her term in Jan. 2016)
- Home for Cultural Arts in Newtown (Pat Llodra)
 - Discussion of having a dedicated building
 - Pat suggests that the Fairfield Hills Authority look at Plymouth Hall as a place that the NCAC can find a home
 - Pat suggests that NCAC go to Fairfield Hills Authority to present interest in Plymouth Hall
 - What steps does the NCAC need to take to move forward?
- Report from Poet Laureate (Lisa Schwartz)

- Talking to librarian at Reed School about opportunities to do something in April 2016 (National Poetry Month)
- Discussion of doing something with The Newtown Bee
- Lisa did a reading at the Booth Library last week and a reading in Manchester with other CT State poet laureate's
- Newtown Weaving Group
 - Jen C met with Parks & Rec about a permanent space for the weavers
 - Not finalized yet but we expect to have more information within a week
 - Suggestion that the weavers also look at other options to present to the NCAC in case the Parks & Rec option doesn't work out
 - Motion by Donna R that we pay rent on a month-by-month basis up to \$150 a month for up to 90 days. Seconded by Robert R. Approved by all members except Jen Rogers who voted nay.
- Library Showcase
 - November's showcase is The Art of the Linocut featuring Tracy Van Buskirk and Kimberly Day.
 - December's is in planning.
- Municipal Center Gallery
 - November – Flagpole Photographers
 - January – Virginia Zimmerman
 - February – SCAN
 - Flagpole Photographers will partner with the Newtown Animal Shelter to take pictures of the animals and show them to help them get adopted
- Discussion of changing date of NCAC meeting
 - Motion by Donna M to change NCAC meetings to 2nd Thursdays of every month starting in 2015, seconded by Jen C. Approved unanimously.
- Website (Rob K)
 - Discussion of updates to website
 - Rob has shared a demo site for us to look at – everyone should send the feedback to Rob
 - Motion by Donna M to reimburse Rob K \$31 for website expenses, second by Jen C. Approved Unanimously
- Social Media (Elaine)
 - Elaine is going to change the header on our FB page
- Award presented by NCAC to Town Players of Newtown for 80 Years of Theatrical Excellence
- Public Participation
 - None
- Other Business
 - None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 27, 2015, Town Hall South Meeting Room (lower level).