

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

June 15, 2016

Meeting Minutes

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission held a meeting on Wednesday June 15, 2015, at Town Hall South.

Members Present: Robert Rabinowitz, Laura Lerman, Rob Kaiser, Jen Cebry, Andrea Spencer, Rob Kaiser, Tracy Van Buskirk

Members Absent: Donna Randle, John Conk, Scott Switzer

Auxiliary Members: Elaine Barbera

Guests: None

Laura Lerman called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

- Minutes: Minutes of the Thursday May 12, 2016, NCAC meeting, approved unanimously
- Officers Reports:
 - Laura Lerman (Chair):
 - Community Center – Laura & Terry Sagedy met with Andy Ballard and Evan Eleff of SFA, The Sports Facilities Advisory (the company that will be planning the Community Center) and hopefully conducting a feasibility study on an aquatic center.
 - Laura attended a workshop on state Grants at the Cultural Alliance of Western CT. Working with Virginia Zimmerman on a mural for the railroad trestle. First step is to get permission. Another idea for a grant: adding musician to artist's receptions at the Municipal Center.
 - Laura attended an "envisioning" session with the Board of Town Hall managers, as an observer. It was a regular meeting and therefore open to the public. Margo Hall, chairman of the Managers, has reached out to me and we will be meeting next week.
 - Laura met with George Benson, Wes and Betsy Paynter about Town hall. Margo was ill and did not attend.
 - Andrea Spencer (Vice Chair): None
 - Robert Rabinowitz (Secretary): Scott Switzer has been appointed to the NCAC
- Treasurer's Report (Laura Lerman)
 - Update on accounts
- Public Participation: None
- Firehouse / Edmond Town Hall
 - Discussed need to find out actual costs of demolition vs renovation
 - Laura asked Geralyn Hoerauf for a ballpark figure about what it would cost to take down the firehouse. Told her we had heard \$350,000. Geralyn suggested \$50-60,000. Spoke to Bob Tate about the town's going out for a bid to take down the old firehouse. That would give us a specific # for what monies could be used to rehabilitate the building. He suggested that we watch the Selectman meetings minutes. That would give us an idea of when the bids are going out. Usually takes a month to get the bids back.
- Donations (Robert R)
 - NCAC has arranged for a donation of a Sound System/PA from Samson Technologies to Edmond Town Hall

- NCAC has arranged for a donation of a lectern with built in sound system from AmpliVox for use at The Newtown Municipal Center
- NCAC has arranged for a donation reeds, strings, blank music books, and percussion equipment from D'Addario for the Newtown School District
- NCAC has arranged a donation of water and ice tea from Nestle for The Newtown Arts Festival
- NCAC has arranged a donation of music books and scores from Alfred Publishing for The Newtown School District.
- NCAC has arranged a donation of music books and scores from Carl Fisher Music for The Newtown School District.
- NCAC has arranged a donation for the Nighthawks Marching Band and NHS bands of percussion mallets and drum sticks from the Vic Firth Company
- NCAC arranged a donation of a full sized Casio Digital Piano to the Computer Music Lab at Newtown High School.
- NCAC arranged a donation of Jazz Books from Jamey Abersold publishing for use at Newtown High School.
- NCAC arranged a donation of 40 instrument tuners from KLIQ for The Newtown School District.
- NCAC arranged an upgrade to the Spectrasonics software in use at The Newtown High School Computer Music Lab.
- NCAC arranged a donation of an electric bass guitar from Michael Tobias for The Newtown High School Band and Jazz Band.
- NCAC received a donation of 50 Harmony Soprano Recorders from West Music which we plan to use at The Newtown Arts Festival.
- NCAC has received a donation of 18 electric guitars from Goldfish Guitars which we plan on using at The Newtown Arts Festival and other events.
- 2016 Arts Festival – Terry Sagedy, festival director, could not attend tonight's meeting
 - Andrea: Rooster Ball discussion – concerns over there no longer being a Rooster Ball Committee and Andrea is pretty much the only resource working on the ball at the moment
 - Robert: Spence Sound has put in their price for this year's sound for the festival
 - Motion by Jen C to allocate \$1750 to Durant's as a down payment for the Arts Festival. Second by Robert R. Passed unanimously.
- Tag Sale:
 - Laura Met with Donna Randle and Linda Watson. Linda has agreed to chair the event. We would be selling tables rather than objects and Linda will use her connections to spread the word. Would be in conjunction with the VFW essay project. At the VFW hall.
- Authors Event:
 - Pat has suggested that we have an author's event...similar to the poetry event but the author's would be reading their own works. We are looking into the possibility of doing this in October.
- NCAC Scholarships and Grants Laura
 - Scholarships – we gave out 2 scholarships
 - Getting ready to begin process for soliciting grant ideas. Deadline will be August 15.
- Library Showcase & Municipal Gallery
 - Currently, the propagators are in the Municipal center, along with an appropriate exhibit from Flagpole Photographers, and the Friends of the Library are in the

showcase. Laura is talking with John Boccuzzi about exhibiting works from the Senior Center pottery grant in the library.

- Municipal Center: Considering the possibility of opening it one weekend day a month
 - Laura will contact Joe Paccia, our July artist to set up some dates he is available
- Website (Rob K)
 - Rob will teach people how to post – starting with email directions and is willing to give personal tutorials
- Social Media (Robert R)
 - Regular posts continue to be made to the NCAC Facebook Page
- Other Business
 - Jen C: a number of the families came to the warehouse to look through the artwork and supplies and we gave them items that they wanted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33pm.

**Newtown Cultural Arts Commission
2016 Meeting Dates
Tuesdays - 7:00 PM**

All meetings to be held at: Conference room at Town Hall South unless otherwise noted

January 14
February 11
March 10
April 14
May 12
June 9
July 14
August 11
September 8
October 13
November 10
December 8

2017 NCAC Meeting Schedule

January 12