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## MINUTES

February 25, 2015 | 10:00am | City Hall Auditorium

Attendance: Ed Cannata, Jacque Williams, Marie Soliani, Mike McAllister, Kim McAllister, Bill Haygood, Fiona DeMerell, Vincent Chaigne

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ed Cannata at 10:03am

Jacque Williams made a motion to amend the minutes as presented to reflect the discussion of a potential endorsement for Culture for a Cause. Bill Haygood inquired as to the process by which minutes would be taken. Tim Waldron explained that Secretary Marie Soliani would scribe the meetings and then Tim would type them up to submit to the City Clerk's office. The minutes were approved as amended on a motion by Jacque Williams, seconded by Bill Haygood.

### Ideas & Initiatives:

The committee agreed to add to all future agendas a Public Comment component. This will allow members of the public to address the committee at their monthly meetings.

### Sub Committees:

Chairman Ed Cannata proposed a number of subcommittees which would allow the committee to work on a number of their stated goals for the years. The subcommittees and their members are as follows:

Toolkit Subcommittee, will give merchants & interested parties documentation needed to create an event and or getting an endorsement from the committee. This will also establish a registry of artists, musicians, etc. Volunteers are Jacque Williams, Kim McAllister, Ed Cannata

Website/Social Media/Logo – Fiona DeMerell, Ed Cannata, Kim McAllister, Mike McAllister

Jacque Williams introduced the possibility of a formal endorsement for Culture for a Cause. The committee discussed the idea and agreed that Jacque should present the event to the committee in writing at the next meeting. A motion was made to add to the next meetings agenda to vote to endorse Culture for a Cause. The motion was made by Vinny Chaigne, seconded by Mike McAllister

Marketplace update:

Kim McAllister reported that they were looking at changing the name of the event. Suggestions should be sent to Erin Wilson or Kim. The event is set to run from July 9<sup>th</sup> – August 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-9:00pm on Franklin Street in Torrington.

Coe Park Unplugged:

Kim, Mike & Jacque discussing the event, updates to follow.

There were no reports available from the Torrington Development Corporation or the Economic Development Corporation. The Parks & Recreation Commission recently hosted a well attended Winter Carnival. They are planning a fundraiser for the fireworks on 2/28 at the Sullivan Senior Center, it will be a Dr. Seuss Birthday Breakfast.

Public Comment:

Amy Wynn of the Northwest CT Arts Council addressed the committee. She would like to see ACT and the Arts Council work together and suggested we utilize their inventory of artists that is currently established so as to not duplicate efforts. Amy invited ACT to sign up to be one of their listed organizations.

Ed Jaffe spoke to the committee and discussed his ideas for how to make Torrington more attractive to artists.

Commissioner Updates:

Fiona spoke of an event being held at the Whitson Gallery at UConn Torrington.

Jacque Williams reported that he had been approached by a citizen inquiring whether or not ACT would be interested in organizing an event to honor Black History Month in February of 2016

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07am on a motion made by Mike McAllister, seconded by Vinny Chaigne.