



MINUTES

July 28, 2010 | 10:00am – 11am | City Hall (Rm 311)

Commissioners Present: Steve Criss, Aurora Daly, Lynn Gelormino, Jessica Hodorski, Gail Kruppa, Julia Sloan, Tim Wallace, Jacque Williams

Members Present: Diane Consolini, Rose Ponte, Bill Battle

I. Call To Order: 10:11,

Motion: Jacque Williams

Second: Lynn Gelormino

II. Acceptance of previous Meeting Minutes- No minutes

III. Status of Commission Members

- A. Ron Alexander is no longer a Commissioner. Mayor Bingham and the City Council will vote on Diane Consolini as a possible replacement.
- B. Three Commissioner's terms are coming to and end in December. They may be renewed for another four years if the Commission allows. The current terms are as follows:
 - i. To serve until 12/31/2010: Jacque Williams, Gail Kruppa, Julia Sloan
 - ii. To serve until 12/31/2011: Aurora Daly, Ron Alexander, Lynn Gelormino
 - iii. To serve until 12/31/2012: Tim Wallace, Steve Criss, Jessica Hodorski
- C. Officers will be re-appointed/voted in at the September meeting. Anyone wishing to become an should make his/her intentions known at the August meeting. Motion by Lynn Gelormino and second by Jessica Hodorski. The current officers are as follows:
 - i. Co-Chair: Commissioner Steve Criss and Commissioner Tim Wallace
 - ii. Secretary: Commissioner Jessica Hodorski

IV. Sub Committee Reports:

A. ACT Membership Feasibility - Tom Bott: Tabled

B. Torrington Mural Project – Cindy/Tom: Tabled

C. DiscoverTorrington.com (Steve)- Website was launched Memorial Day Weekend and Steve Criss has been updating frequently. If any Commissioner has news or events he/she would like published to the web, please contact Steve. He would like to sell the Mill Town Collective products as souvenirs for the town and will contact Julia Sloan about it at a later date. The Mill Town Collective's goal is to reintroduce Torrington as a vibrant and viable city.

D. Singer/Songwriter Network (Jacques)- Open sessions for the summer are continuing, but at a slower rate because of vacations. SSN has 100 active members and 420 fans Facebook fans. Jacque requested that discovertorrington.com have a link to the Facebook page. September celebrates the one year anniversary of SSN. There will be a subcommittee to plan a celebration concert.

E. Main Street Marketplace (Steve & Committee)-MSMP is going very well with over 1,000 people each night in attendance. It is a labor of love for the committee. Steve Criss mentioned the timeline and planning schedule for each event: Every Wednesday morning the committee meets to review that weeks event; the day of the event, the committee meets at 2pm downtown, sets-up the tents, pulls them out into the street; helps vendors set-up after 4pm and then the event starts at 5; the event runs until 9pm and the committee breaks down until around 10 or 10:30. The next morning, Friday, the committee meets again to review the previous night and discuss the next week. Between meetings, Jessica and Julia confirm vendors, create placement maps, and place potential vendors on waiting lists. Steve and Rose review program

booklet and make changes and also gather volunteers each week. So far, downtown businesses have seen a 40-50% increase in sales.

F. Torrington Arts Resource Report (Steve/Lynn)- The ARR's goal is determine what arts and cultures role is in the region. It will also help provide information for grant reports. Please send all stats to Lynn Gelormino. The goal is put out a report by January or February 2011.

V. Open Floor

A. Fall Festival/Oktoberfest: Discuss at August meeting after MSMP is over.

B. Foreign Film Festival: Host a film festival for a weekend in the spring or fall and use a variety of facilities, including the Warner Theatre, the Torrington Library, the Historical Society and more to host events.

C. Downtown Arts Education Collaborative: Each fall and spring create a one-day open house to all arts/cultural venues, where people can "try-out" different classes that each organization has to offer. This is a great way to get the public interested in education centers. It could be called and "Arts/Culture Crawl". More discussion will follow.

VI. Motion to Adjourn: 11:29

Motion: Aurora Daly

Second: Julia Sloan

VII. Upcoming ACT Meetings

Official ACT Meeting – Aug 31st 10am – City Hall

Main Street Marketplace – Every Wednesday 9am – City Hall