



MINUTES

April 28, 2010 | 10am – 11am

T1 Conference Room; City Hall (Temp. location)

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Steve Criss, Lynn Gelormino, Jessica Hodorski, Julia Sloan; Jacque Williams

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Bott; Rick Sheldon; Steve Sokolow; Rose Ponte

I. Call To Order - 10:24am

Motion: Lynn Gelormino

Second Jacque Williams

II. Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes - Accepted

Motion: Julia Sloan

Second: Steve Criss

III. Sub Committee Reports:

- A. ACT Membership Feasibility** (Tom Bott)- Aurora Daly and Tom Bott had met and discussed membership. Please see **Attachment A** for information regarding membership. Once the membership definition and roles have been determined, the committee will look into altering commission bi-laws. It was also discussed geographically who membership be open to. Is it limited to just people working or living in Torrington or do we want to stretch beyond the Torrington border. This too must be discussed.
- B. Torrington Mural Project** (Tom Bott) - Tom Bott spoke with Mr. Libby and the owners of the Libby building regarding the mural project. The Libby family is still offering the building, as long as Mr. Libby can approve the artwork being commissioned. The project can officially move forward again.
- C. DiscoverTorrington.com** (Steve Criss) - Website to launch Memorial Day Weekend. Steve is meeting with Northwest Arts Council to discuss the feasibility of having events posted to their site and imported into ACT's event calendar. The NWCT Arts Council did have some concerns and Steve will discuss those at his meeting with the council this coming week. He is currently working on an online form for the public to submit events. Steve has Loaded downtown restaurant, shopping, lodging & cultural directory listings. There is also a section to encourage Torrington artists & musicians to register for Artspace: Torrington& Singer/Songwriter network. Steve also loaded THS Walking Tour onto site (currently disabled, but it's there) . The Commission can include stores, lodging and restaurants into this map if needed.
- D. Singer/Songwriter Network** (Jacque Williams)- Thus far, the SSN has over 80 people registered. Word of mouth seems the best form of advertising. Steve suggested having

musicians and members load their professional profile onto discover Torrington.com to update the SNN directory.

- E. Artspace:Torrington** (Aurora Daly)- Tabled
- F. Memorial Day Parade** (Julia Sloan)- Julia had a proof of the banner from Writeway Signs and is awaiting final ACT approval. She will send along an e-mail with the proof and a sign-up list for people wishing to walk in the parade. Steve suggested we talk to Bob Hunter, who is in charge of the parade, and request that all arts organization March near one another.
- G. Torrington Arts Resource Report** (Steve Criss /Lynn Gelormino) – Tabled
- H. Main Street Marketplace** (Steve Criss)- MSMP is running July 1 – August 28 (9 events) from 5:00-9:00pm (times are tentative; waiting to hear back on cost of police for an extra hour for set-up and breakdown). The Tents are in and we can store them at the Warner Theatre. We've received calls from musicians to play at the event. The Torrington Symphony Orchestra would like to be involved. Jacque and the Commission are in agreement that jazz musicians who belong to SNN have priority over non SNN musicians. The Farmer's Market is definitely on board. It was discussed that the En Plein Air event also be a contest, where the winning art work is displayed in City Hall and that the winning photographers have their work displayed at E-postcards from discover Torrington.com. The Commission also brought up a good point that all "traveling" musicians between the hours of 5 and 7 can sell their CDs, but are only allowed a 5 by 5 space or they will have to purchase a booth. We should consider having performing groups that have a following like Forbes Flyers and the Titans; midget football cheerleaders. Lowe's might also be willing to sponsor their own "workshop" in the municipal lot like they do at their stores.

IV. Open Floor

- A.** Register Citizen's Every Town Has a Green is seeking calendar listings for arts and cultures groups. Please send a listing of your organizations events to Rose ASAP if you would like to be included. Or send directly to calendar@registercitizen.com
- B.** Just as a side note, please email all attachments and notes to Jessica 24 hours in advance of meetings so that she can post them to the minutes

V. Upcoming ACT Meetings

- A.** Official ACT Meeting – May 26th 10am – **The New and Improved City Hall!**
- B.** Main Street Marketplace – Every Wednesday 10am – City Hall

VI. Call to a Close: 11:35am

Motion: Jessica Hodorski
Second: Lynn Gelormino

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Hodorski, Secretary

Attachment A

DRAFT

**Arts & Culture Commission of Torrington (ACT)
Membership Application**

Purpose of ACT:

To promote Torrington's diverse arts and cultural assets, to foster economic growth through these assets, strengthen our cultural identity and contribute to the quality of life in Torrington and its environs..

Date: _____

Check one:

Individual \$? _____

Organization \$? _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/state, zip _____

Email Address _____

Send completed application and check payable to ACT to:

Arts & Culture Commission of Torrington

City Hall

Torrington, CT 06790

DRAFT

Membership in ACT

Open to art organizations that provide professional production, presentation, and preservation of visual, musical, and performing arts. This includes , but is not limited to theater, drama, dance, painting, vocal and instrumental music, sculpture, ceramics, photography, architecture, graphic arts, crafts, costume and fashion design,

Open to cultural organizations that provide training, education, enlightening, and refining of the mind, emotions, manners, and taste. This includes, but is not limited to libraries, museums, historical, creative writing, and literature groups,

The above definitions would exclude organizations, activities such as rhythmic gymnasts, strip tease artists, movies, martial arts, and sporting events.

Another interesting comment I found emphasized that what's important is not what art is, but what art does. It preserves/questions the status quo, provides, beauty, entertainment, teaches history, cultures, dominant values, and provides creative products for consumption by the public.