

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission
March 9, 2017
Meeting Minutes

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission held a meeting on Thursday March 9, 2017 at Town Hall South.

Members Present:, Laura Lerman, Jen Cebry, Donna Randle, Rob Kaiser (arrived 7:30 pm), Tracy Van Buskirk, Grant Ossendryver, Andrea Spencer

Members Absent: John Conk, Scott Switzer

Auxiliary Members: Lisa Schwartz

Laura Lerman called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

- Officers Report:
 - Laura Lerman (Chair): Our annual budget of \$2,500 is unchanged from the previous year. Laura will extend a welcome to the new head librarian at CH Booth Library, Karen Tatarka.
 - Andrea Spencer (Vice Chair): The CAC nominated Michelle Hiscavich, Director of Visual and Performing Arts for the Newtown school district, for an Educator Award under the Arts and Culture Empowerment (“ACE”) awards program organized by the Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County. The Educator Award recognizes an individual, nonprofit or creative business that has made a substantial impact on the arts and cultural education of students and citizens of Fairfield County through innovative approaches to programming, access and/or advocacy.
- Treasurer’s Report (Jen Cebry on behalf of Jim Cebry, Treasurer)
 - Current balances in accounts presented. Access to Dropbox discussed.
- Library Showcase & Municipal Gallery
 - Municipal Gallery: Current show is hosted by SCAN. April will be a student’s show and flower show for the last week of April.
 - Library Showcase: Newtown Authors currently in the showcase. Next month will be Historical Society.
- Grants and Scholarships (Laura Lerman): First application has been received.
- Arts Festival (Jen Cebry)
 - Final design selected for promotion. Cebry moved to allocated \$750 to pay for design, seconded by Randle. Passed unanimously.
 - Discussed pricing and bad weather venue for concert with Sawyer Fredricks.
 - Vendors are starting to sign up for the festival
 - The idea of using the now closed St. John’s Church in Sandy Hook as a venue for events will be explored.
 - Cebry moved to allocate \$1,500 to pay for promotion on social media. Seconded by Randle. Passed unanimously.
 - The question of whether to pay musicians at the Festival was briefly discussed. Grant suggested photos and video in lieu of payment.
 - The next Arts Festival meeting will be 3/16 at 7 pm at Town Hall South.
- Other Business
 - Resident Rhonda Cullens suggested to the CAC that we have a town wide photography contest to promote that art form and as a fundraiser. The consensus was positive.

- Film Festival- this will take place October 20-21. Kristin Carlin and Max Gallasky will be involved.
- Risk A Verse (Tracy Van Buskirk & Lisa Schwartz): Progressing well. Promotion on social media is working well. Several readers have been signed up.
- Website/Social Media (Robert Kaiser)
 - Members were encouraged to post on the website.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

All meetings to be held at: Conference Room, Town hall South unless otherwise noted.

2017 NCAC Meeting Schedule

January 12

February 9

March 9

April 13

May 11

June 8

July 13

August 10

September 14

October 12

November 9

December 14