

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

Minutes of February 6, 2020 Meeting

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE NEWTOWN CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AT THE NEXT MEETING.

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission held a meeting on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at the Municipal Center.

Members present: Laura Lerman, Deborra Zukowski, Tracy Van Buskirk, Jennifer Cebry, Jim Cebry (Treasurer), Suzanne Lang, Grant Ossendryver, Rob Kaiser, Sue Kassirer

Members absent: Andrea Spencer

Auxiliary members present: Barbara Snyder

Public present: Lynn Hungaski, Elaine Martin

Laura Lerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

- Minutes: The minutes of the January 2, 2020 meeting were approved (moved Zukowski, seconded Kassirer, passed unanimously).
- Newtown Arts Festival: The festival will be on Sept 26 and 27. Nancy Cole has been selected to design the logo and t-shirt for the festival. Several mock ups were presented and the consensus was to go with the Ram Pasture themed design, but it was agreed by the group to see if Nancy could add an easel with a canvas in the image. Barbara discussed a possible card to promote the festival with the logo on one side and “how to be involved” on the reverse. She is also working on a mailing list via Mail Chimp. Paula Brinkman will run the canvas bag painting activity and the Guman’s are lined up to arrange the music. There is some pressure from the Police Department to keep alcohol in the designated area of the festival grounds. Lynn Hungaski will head up sponsorship. There was some discussion about water re-filling stations in order to cut down on plastic water bottles. This will be pursued.
- Officers’ Reports: none
- Treasurer's Report (Jim Cebry): There are two PayPal accounts, both tied to bank accounts controlled by Bob Tate. It was agreed to close out the NCAC Paypal account and use the Art Festival account exclusively.
- Public Participation: Barbara Snyder previously spoke about the Festival.
- Community Center: The CC is heading into their spring programming. There are at least 8 after school programs, as well as open art studio time. Jen is working on developing more participatory workshops and art shows, in conjunction with SCAN.
- Lisa Schwartz, Newtown’s Poet Laureate, is stepping down as of June 1, because she is moving to California this spring. Her term formerly expires Sept 30, 2021. We will advertise for interested candidates.
- Gallery at Municipal Center/ Gallery Showcase: SCAN show is up until the end of February. There will be a photography show of animals in March. The showcase has a display of wood turned objects.
- Library Showcase: There is an excellent display of artifacts found in and around the Pootatuck River.

- Website: No report
- Other Business-
 - Grant suggested that we should have a Facebook Events page for any NCAC related events. This will centralize and “brand” the events as part of the NCAC. The group agreed and it was pointed out that this fits in well with the development of a strategic plan. Deb said that the Strategy subcommittee is developing ideas for a more unified approach to our activities.
 - There was general agreement that we should design a new logo for the NCAC that is a more simple graphic image.
 - Grant announced that his music school is changing its name and he has created a guessing game on his Facebook page.
 - Deb asked that we all review her recent email and give feedback. She asked that the Strategy Subcommittee be on the agenda for next month.
 - Tracy announced that she has been asked to design the library sale t-shirt to take place this summer.
 - Laura announced that the Grant and Scholarship applications are on the website.
- There being no other business it was moved (Van Buskirk) and seconded (Zukowski) to adjourn. Passed unanimously. Adjourned at 8:14 PM.