

## **Newtown Cultural Arts Commission**

Minutes of May 6, 2021 Meeting

These minutes are subject to approval by the NCAC, at the next meeting

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission, held a meeting via video conferencing on Thursday, May 6, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Commission Chairman Laura E. Lerman

**Members present:** Laura Lerman, Andrea Spencer, Roger Connor, Tracy Van Buskirk, Jen Cebry, Robert Kaiser, Grant Ossendryver, Daniel Ferreira (voted in at this meeting)

**Members absent:** Sue Kassirer

**Auxiliary members:** none

**Members of the Public:** Lynn Hungaski

Minutes: It was moved by Andrea that the minutes of the April 1, 2021 meeting be approved, seconded by Rob and passed unanimously.

Officer Reports: No report

Treasurer's Report: Jen reported, on behalf of Treasurer Jim Cebry, that the first deposit towards the Art Festival is done.

New Member: Because of the calendar and the requirements of state statutes, the Commission, rather than the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to appoint Daniel T. Ferreira as a new member. Jen moved to accept the appointment, seconded by Tracy, passed unanimously.

Chamber of Commerce: Laura said that the CAC originally became a member of the Chamber to reach out to members, and to promote the festival. The cost of an annual membership is \$100. Tracy moved we renew our membership, seconded by Jen, passed unanimously.

Art Festival: Lynn is having great success in getting sponsors. Laura reported that Newtown Day is scheduled for Oct 10 so we need to make sure that they do not post signs until after the Festival is over in order to reduce confusion. The Book sale is definitely happening this July and we can have a table there to promote the festival. The next NAF meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 13.

Community Center: Jen reported that they are very busy with lots of activities and programs. Art related classes include puppetry, dance, jewelry,

metalsmithing, weaving. It was suggested that some of the work produced could be displayed in the Municipal Showcase.

Public Participation: none.

Facebook Page Calendars: Laura continues to post events of interest

Scholarships / Grants: Three students have been awarded a scholarship of \$1,250 each. The names are being kept confidential until the students are notified. There will be an in-person outdoor awards ceremony for all town scholarships on June 2. Andrea moved that up to \$3,750 be paid to the scholarship recipients, seconded by Jen, passed unanimously.

Two grant recipients were selected by the Grants subcommittee: The Resiliency Center, which was formed after the 12/14 tragedy, specializes in trauma based therapy. They have requested a grant of \$1,236.98 for the purchase of supplies for a fund raiser, which will consist of asking area artists to decorate 25 painters palettes that will then be sold. Paula Brinkman has requested \$590.37 to paint the plywood covers on the windows of some of the Fairfield Hills empty buildings. Rob suggested that the Fairfield Hills Authority should fund this project, but Laura felt it was unlikely they would in a timely manner. Andrea moved that up to \$1,827.35 be allocated to grants, seconded by Roger, passed unanimously. (Lynn left the meeting at 7:22 PM.)

Municipal Gallery/Showcase/Library Showcase: The Portfolio class at NHS would like to display their work in the first two weeks of December at the Municipal Center. The Flagpole Photographers usually have an exhibit at that time, but member Rhonda Cullen will arrange for a section of the gallery to be dedicated to the Portfolio class. The potters are in the Showcase, to be followed by student work.

Website: No report.

Other Business: The library might have an outdoor sculpture show in the future. Dan asked if it would be limited to Newtown residents, Laura will find out.

It was moved by Rob to adjourn, seconded by Andrea, no discussion, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tracy Van Buskirk