

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

Minutes of February 2, 2023

These minutes are subject to approval by the NCAC members at the next Arts Commission Meeting

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission, held a meeting on Thursday, February 2, 2023 in the Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Commission Chairperson Laura E. Lerman.

Members present: Laura Lerman, Andrea Spencer, Roger Connor, Jennifer Cebry, Robert Kaiser, Grant Ossendryver, Robin Lynch, Michael Jehle

Members absent: Daniel Ferreira

Auxiliary members: Linda Parsloe

Members of the Public: None

1. **Minutes:** Andrea Spencer moved that the minutes of the special meeting January 12, 2023 meeting be approved: Michael Jehle seconded. All in favor – motion passed unanimously.
2. **Officers' Reports:** Chair Laura Lerman congratulated new member Michael Jehle, who is the Director of the Fairfield Museum on receiving an \$80,00 grant. Laura has also reached out to Sue Marcinek to get a clerk for the NCC meetings.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** On behalf of Treasurer Jim Cebry, Jennifer Cebry reported the treasurer's report as follows:
Gift Fund: \$15, 235.58 of which includes \$2,785 designated for the Weaving Program
Savings: \$41, 000
CD: Approx. \$135,000 – awaiting official statement
4. **Newtown Arts Festival:** Motion presented by Jennifer Cebry to allocate \$5,000 from the Gift Fund as start-up funds for the Newtown Arts Festival. Seconded by Roger Connor. All in favor – motion passed unanimously. Andrea Spencer reported that we will be applying for the CT Arts Workforce Initiative Grant through CT Humanities in February – the Festival is in need of a paid Intern to help with administrative duties and web & social media. She is also contacting Western CT State University Digital Arts Department. Jennifer Cebry announced that former Art Festival Chairperson Terry Sagedy will be joining the Arts Festival Committee as Creative Director for this year's event. He will be working on all things creative including the activity tents, advertising and marketing, creating a centerpiece as well as bringing back the lead-up events to the festival. More details will come at the next festival meeting on Thursday March 9th.
5. **Public Participation:** NONE
6. **Scholarships and Grants:** The scholarship application is on the website and has been given to the NHS Career Center. Deadline is in April. Andrea Spencer and Laura Lerman proposed an extra \$500 stipend to be awarded to individual artists in addition to the \$1250 grant – the committee will review at the next meeting.
7. **Municipal Art Gallery Report:** SCAN is in the Municipal Gallery through February 2023. They are selling "small works" created and contributed by SCAN members to support and benefit the World Central Kitchen. Neil Bittner will be in March and there will be a K-12 exhibit in April. The showcase will have Lee Skalkos in March.
8. **2022 & 2023 CT Humanities:** Laura Lerman reported that the online paperwork for the 2022 \$7400 grant received from CT Humanities has been completed. The paperwork for the 2023 \$6100 grant received is now in process.
9. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn brought by Jennifer Cebry and seconded by Robin Lynch. All in favor – motion approved unanimously at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Cebry, Newtown Cultural Arts Commission