

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

February 8, 2018

Meeting Minutes

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission held a meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at the Municipal Center

Members Present: Laura Lerman, Tracy Van Buskirk, Andrea Spencer, Grant Ossendryver, Jen Cebry, Rob Kaiser, Deborra Zukowski, Donna Randle.

Members Absent: None

Auxiliary Member: Jim Cebry

Public Participation: None

Laura Lerman called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

- The minutes of the 1/11/18 meeting were approved (moved Van Buskirk, seconded Cebry)
- Officers' Reports:
 - President:
 - Laura noted that our annual budget of \$2,500 remains the same.
 - Two people have expressed interest in serving on the Commission to fill the vacant seat: Linda Dohanos and Susan Kassirer. Both are local artists. The Board of Selectmen will select one and the decision will be announced at their 2/20/18 meeting.
 - Everyone is encouraged to think of a nominating an "Art Hero", sponsored by the State of Connecticut Office of the Arts. The theme is Resilience. March 23rd is the deadline. Here is the link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ArtsHeroAwards>.
 - Treasurer: Treasurer Jim Cebry reported on the operating account balance and that the \$2,500 allocated budget amount needs to be utilized by 6/30/18 and will most likely be used for the Art Festival.
- Public Participation:
 - Grant Ossendryver reported that his school, Rock Elite Music Academy, has welcomed Andrea Spencer's son as an instructor, they are offering four months of free instrument rental for 2 months of instruction, and the school has become the owner of a piano that was used by Frank Sinatra.
- The Gallery: The current show is works of art by members of SCAN. Next up is Rhonda and Chane Cullen's photography in April. The K-12 show also be featured for the last two weeks of March.
- Showcase at the Library: The current display is by three local potters.
- Art Festival: The first meeting for the 2018 festival will take place on 2/15/17 and will meet monthly thereafter on the third Thursday of each month. Jen has been meeting with sub-committee leaders. There was a lot of discussion about NYA's request that the Food Truck Festival that NYA co-hosted with Park and Rec and the Chamber of Commerce be combined with the Art Festival. It was decided that it did not make economic, strategic or logistical sense to do so. However, we will try to get a volunteer to specialize in food service for the Festival, as well as someone with PR experience.

- Grants and Scholarships: The deadlines are 3/2/18 for grants and 3/23/18 for scholarships. The Career Center at NHS has the scholarship forms. We raised enough funds last year to be able to offer three \$1,000 scholarships. There will be two grants of up to \$1,000 each. Anyone interested should visit the CAC website.
 - Website: The need to increase visits was discussed. Rob will explore a plug in with Walter Dolan that will link the site with Hootsuite, a platform to manage social media.
 - Other Business:
 - Risk A Verse: Tracy reported that the date was moved to April 8th. Dan Rosenthal has signed up to read a poem. Other names were suggested.
- There being no further business, it was moved (Cebry), seconded (Spencer) and voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm.

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

All meetings to be held at the Municipal Center unless otherwise noted.

2018 NCAC Meeting Schedule

January 11, 2018

February 8

March 8

April 12

May 10

June 14

July 12

August 9

September 13

October 11

November 8

December 13