

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

Minutes of June 6, 2019 Meeting

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

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission held a meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at the Municipal Center.

Members present: Jennifer Cebry, Grant Ossendryver, Rob Kaiser, Laura Lerman, Sue Kassirer, Tracy Van Buskirk, Suzanne Lang, Andrea Spencer

Members Absent: Deborra Zukowski

Auxiliary members present: None

Public present: Kelly Rafferty, Steve DeMott

Laura Lerman called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM

- The minutes of the May 2, 2019 meeting were approved (moved Van Buskirk, seconded Lang, passed unanimously).
- Officers' Reports: Chairman Laura Lerman had no news. Vice President Andrea Spencer had no news. Treasurer Jim Cebry (via Jen Cebry) reported that the checks for the scholarship and grant recipients will be submitted.
- Public Participation: Kelly Rafferty was introduced by Jennifer as the intern for the CAC. She will be working 20 hours / week helping mostly with the Art Festival, doing administrative work, working with vendors and on the website. We are all excited to have her this summer. Steve DeMott introduced himself. He is a musician, sound engineer and music producer. He would like to learn more about the Commission and help as he can.
- Community Center Update: Jen reported that they hope to open in mid to late July. They are currently working hard on developing some great programming. There will be a variety of after school activities for students including art, pottery, swimming etc. The kids will be able to freely choose what they would like to do. There will also be Saturday activities. Once a month there will be free workshops with higher level art projects.
- Art Festival: Jen reported that they are signing up vendors. Intern Kelly is working hard on soliciting support. The Connecticut Woolcrafters will have a tent. Flagpole Photographers will present a short workshop on taking good photos with a cell phone. This will take place either at the Make and Take Tent or the Science Tent. We discussed working with one of the local breweries in some capacity, to have local beer at the Festival. The Flagpole Radio Café will perform either Friday or Saturday, either the orchestra only or perhaps more; to be developed later. A sound engineering company will be hired via bid process. Jen moved to allocate \$5,000 for the headliner entertainment. Seconded by Spencer, passed unanimously.

- Scholarships and Grants: Laura and Andrea presented the art scholarships to three students at the recent awards ceremony at the High School. Each student was awarded \$1,250. The winners were Danielle Wassmer, Jacob Clements and Thomas Hasselberger. Two grants were awarded. The Everwonder Children's Museum will build a moveable art installation that will create a "Downtown Newtown" look in the young explorer's area, for which the grant will be paid after the project is complete. Ben's Lighthouse will present a free community concert in November, which our grant will help finance. That grant will be paid prior to the concert.
- Gallery at the Municipal Center and Showcase at the Municipal Center: Linda Dahanos' fanciful paintings are currently on display. The Three Potters work is on display in the Gallery Showcase. We are working on establishing a schedule for The Potters so we can build exhibits around them.
- Library Showcase: Painted Rocks on display. Friends of Library in July to coincide with the Book Sale.
- Website: Kelly has some web design experience and can help Rob.
- Other Business: Grant noted that the Little Theatre in Newtown is presenting a musical for the first time.
- There being no other business it was moved (Van Buskirk) and seconded (Lang) to adjourn. Passed unanimously. Adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Van Buskirk
Secretary