

# **Newtown Cultural Arts Commission**

## **Minutes of Sept. 5, 2019 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, September 5, 2019 at the Municipal Center.

**Members present:** Jennifer Cebry, Laura Lerman, Sue Kassirer, Andrea Spencer, Deborra Zukowski, Rob Kaiser, Tracy Van Buskirk, Suzanne Lang, Susan Kassirer

**Members absent:** Grant Ossendryver

**Auxiliary members present:** Elaine Martin

**Public present:** Nancy Cole, Paula Brinkman, Jen Rogers

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

- Minutes: The minutes of the August 1, 2019 meeting were approved (moved Kaiser seconded Lang, passed unanimously).
- Officers' Reports:
  - Chairman's Report (Laura Lerman): Laura arranged for a PSA for the Festival to be aired on WMMR.
  - Treasurer's report (Jim Cebry): No report
- Public Participation: Nancy Cole said she is looking forward to the Festival
- Community Center (Jen Cebry): The Community Center has been active in lending out the moveable stage. It is very convenient that it is now stored at the CC.
- Newtown Arts Festival (Jen Cebry):
  - Copies of the brochure for the Sept-Oct activities and the postcards for the Festival were handed out and everyone was asked to leave them around town.
  - Sponsorships went very well. Of note, Regent Wealth Management came in as a tent sponsor.
  - The tee shirt design is complete and will go to be printed next week.
  - The calendar for the website is being finalized
  - Two sculptors are bringing works for the Festival art garden
  - We have about 50 vendors.
  - Volunteers are set. Church Hill Village will help Friday night.
  - Jen will send the final layout map to the Commission
- Someday Cinema Series ("SCS"): Jen Rogers reminded the Commission that this film series is "Presented" by the CAC, but we have not allocated funds since early 2017. Jen asked the CAC if we would allocate \$350 to pay for a piano accompanist, Ben Model, to play at the Oct 27 showing of Nosferatu, a 1922 silent film. Rob Kaiser made a motion to allocate \$300 to the SCS, seconded by Van Buskirk. Discussion centered on the overall costs of running

the SCS. The Series is financed through corporate sponsorships per film but this usually only covers the cost of leasing the rights. The actual purchase of the blue ray film and other sundries has been paid by Jen. In 2017 there was a budget allocation of \$430.92 of which \$144.58 had been paid to Jen for reimbursement of particular out of pocket expenses, but the actual tracking of this line item has not been done since then. It was also discussed whether we should continue as the Presenter and it was agreed to table that discussion until we received a budget from Jen on her estimates of running the SCS for one year. Cebry submitted a modification of Kaiser's motion to allocate \$350 to the SCS for the requested piano accompanist. The motion passed unanimously.

- Gallery at Municipal Center/ Gallery Showcase: The history of the Arts Festival is on display until September 23, to be followed by the composite photographic art of Hannah Monroe. The Gallery Showcase has wood turning pieces and will be followed by student made pottery. The schools have been in touch with both the CAC and CC about a student art display. It was noted that both Flagpole Photographers and SCAN are given two months each to display their work because both are group shows and do a good job of filling the entire hallway.
- Library Showcase: Highlighting the upcoming Art Festival
- Website: Kaiser reminded us to send any events and activities to him to include on the website.
- Other Business- none.
  - Spencer shared a mock up of a card designed by Ossendryver that would list information about upcoming events, to be updated monthly. We agreed to discuss this more after the festival is over.

There being no other business it was moved (Zukowski) and seconded (Cebry) to adjourn. Passed unanimously. Adjourned around 8:20 PM.