

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

Minutes of March 5, 2020 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, March 5, 2020 at the Municipal Center.

Members present: Laura Lerman, Andrea Spencer, Tracy Van Buskirk, Rob Kaiser (arrived 7:25 pm), Sue Kassirer.

Members absent: Deborra Zukowski, Jennifer Cebry, Jim Cebry (Treasurer), Suzanne Lang, Grant Ossendryver.

Auxiliary members present: none

Public present: Lynn Hungaski

Laura Lerman called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

- Minutes: The minutes of the February 6, 2020 meeting were approved (moved Kassirer, seconded Spencer, passed unanimously).
- Officer Report: Vice President Spencer attended a recent meeting of the Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut. The highlights were the introduction of “Partnership Movement” (<https://www.partnershipmovement.org/>) which provides tools to help link the arts with business. There are “8 Reasons” for this kind of partnership; many are relevant to CAC. All are encouraged to visit the website. No President report. No Treasurer report.
- Public Participation: Lynn spoke about the Art Festival, below.
- Report from Strategic Planning Sub-Committee: The forum, to be called “Newtown Artists Connect!”, will take place on April 30 at the Community Center. Lisa Scails from CAWS will be the MC. The purpose is to reach out to artists and art organizations to find out what is important to them and to share their goals.
- Newtown Arts Festival: The organizers are completing a 5x7 card with a Save the Date and invite sponsorship, which will be distributed at the next CAC meeting in April and widely circulated. Spencer moved that \$126 be allocated for the printing, seconded by Van Buskirk, passed unanimously. Other initiatives to promote the festival will include a table at the Library Book Sale, update to website. The Guman’s are working on the musical line up. Vendor applications have gone out. Lynn, who is coordinating sponsorship asked for any and all contact names of businesses and any ideas. Her email is lynnhungaski@cs.com.
- Community Center: No report.
- Document Retention: Lerman is investigating any guidelines on retention of documents relating to the scholarship and grant applications. It is under the auspices of the State Library. Van Buskirk moved that the documents relating to the scholarships and grants could all be shredded subject to there being no requirement for their retention as advised by the State Library. In discussion, it was suggested and agreed that an Excel spreadsheet be created to save certain pertinent data such as number of applicants, area of interest and award winners, prior to the shredding. Seconded by Spencer, passed unanimously.

- Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut: Our membership expired. All agreed it is a good organization to be a part of. It was moved by Van Buskirk to spend \$120 for the annual membership, seconded by Kassirer, passed unanimously.
- Newtown's Poet Laureate: Application due date is April 6. A committee consisting of Lerman, Spencer and Van Buskirk will select the next Poet Laureate.
- Public Relations/Information: no report.
- Gallery at Municipal Center/ Gallery Showcase: The current show is animal photography by the Flagpole Photographers. The showcase has a display of crafts made by members of the Senior Center.
- Library Showcase: a display by Protect Our Pollinators
- Grants and Scholarships: Press release in Bee, Voices, News-Times, online. Deadline for scholarship applications is March 16; deadline for grants is May 4.
- Website: The new artwork for the 2020 Art Festival is up.
- Other Business: Van Buskirk is designing a few new logos to replace the current one. Kaiser will review some of his prior design ideas. Possible discussion next month.
- There being no other business it was moved (Van Buskirk) and seconded (Spencer) to adjourn. Passed unanimously. Adjourned at 7:46 PM.