

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

Minutes of February 4, 2021 Meeting

These minutes are subject to approval by the NCAC, at the next meeting

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission, held a meeting via video conferencing on Thursday, February 4, 2020.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Commission Chairman Laura E. Lerman

Members present: Laura Lerman, Andrea Spencer, Roger Connor, Tracy Van Buskirk, Sue Kassirer, Robert Kaiser, Jen Cebry, Grant Ossendryver, Suzanne Lang

Members absent: None

Auxiliary members: Barbara Snyder, Jim Cebry

Members of the Public: none

Minutes: It was moved by Andrea that the minutes of the January 7, 2021 meeting be approved. It was then proposed by Tracy that all references in the minutes to Robert Connor be corrected to Roger Conner. Andrea re-submitted to motion with the corrections, which was seconded by Susan Kassirer and passed unanimously.

Officer Reports: Laura Lerman reported that she submitted a proposal to First Selectman Dan Rosenthal that the terms of Andrea Spencer, Rob Kaiser and Jen Cebry be extended by one year for one time only so terms can be staggered more evenly in the future. Dan is supportive and will check to see if the Legislative Counsel needs to approve this or if he can alone. He will respond to Laura when he finds out.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Cebry reported no transactions since the last meeting. Gift fund balance is \$3,082.

Art Festival: Laura spoke to Deborra Zukowski who is agreeable to running the Art of Science tent again. Barbara Snyder, the NAF Chairman, gave an update: Barbara shared a mock up of the poster and Save the Date cards. The poster will not be printed until later. Kelly, our previous intern, will work on the website to post the visuals, vendor applications, and whatever else is needed. Andrea is working on the not for profit and regular vendor applications, and food truck solicitations. Any communications will state that the festival will follow state and local health guidelines, and that fees paid will be returned if the festival has to be canceled. Andrea and Nancy Cole are working on the tee shirt design using the graphics already developed. The tee shirts will be sold on the website prior to the festival as well as at the festival. We do not have a

dedicated sponsor coordinator. Barbara is willing to go to previous sponsors for donations but would like to have someone to spear head this initiative. Susan Kassirer will be speaking with Lynn Hungaski this week and will see if she would be willing to take this on again. Laura is trying to reach Elaine Martin to see if she and her Newtown Savings Bank co-workers will run the front again. Barbara believes the biggest challenge for the festival will be booking the music.

Public Art at Fairfield Hills: Rather than spend more time on the dog park building, Andrea has spoken to artist Lindsay Fuori about painting the white fence at the side of the Community Center. She is open to the idea.

Community Center: Jen reported that they are very busy. The next session starts mid-March. Summer programming is already being planned. Vaccines for the COVID are being done at the CC.

Public Participation: None.

Facebook Page Calendars: Laura is posting weekly calendars of area arts commissions, and other art centered organizations. She noted that the libraries are active with programming as is the Ridgefield Playhouse.

Scholarships / Grants: Scholarship deadline is March 15. Andrea posted the info everywhere as well as on our website. Ms. Morganstern is taking over for Kitty Latowiki, as the scholarship coordinator at the high school. Andrea asked Rob Kaiser to make sure last year's application is not still on the website. We discussed sending out info about the scholarships to our artist vendors.

Municipal Gallery/Showcase/Library Showcase: Still waiting for the Ok to open it up again. SCAN is waiting to do their show. Marlen will do a photography show in May. The library showcase will be open on March 1; display to be decided.

Website: Rob will work on beefing up links and save the dates for the NAF.

Other Business: None.

It was moved by Andrea Spencer to adjourn, seconded by Rob Kaiser, no discussion, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.