

Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

Minutes of December 2, 2021 Meeting

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

The Newtown Cultural Arts Commission, held a meeting at the Community Center on Thursday, December 2, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Commission Chairman Laura E. Lerman.

Members present: Laura Lerman, Andrea Spencer, Roger Connor, Jen Cebry, Grant Ossendryver (arrived 7:14), Daniel Ferreira, Tracy Van Buskirk

Members absent: Robert Kaiser

Auxiliary members: None

Members of the Public: Robin Lynch

1. **Minutes:** It was moved by Dan that the minutes of the November 4, 2021 Meeting be approved, seconded by Jen and passed unanimously.

2. **Officers' Reports:** Andrea reported that the scholarship sub-committee is gearing up for soliciting applications which will go out in January.

Laura is starting to work with George Benson of the Land Use Agency regarding our town wide sign policies. We are especially interested in signage for art shows at the Muni Center and the Art Festival. Jen, as part of the Public Art Committee, will also be looking into policies in other towns and cities.

3. **Treasurers Report:** No report. Jen shared that all requests for payments from the Art Festival have been submitted although there has been a delay in getting all the checks out because of some issues at the town office. Jim is preparing our FYE report.

4. **Membership in Cultural Alliance of Western CT:** Our membership is up for renewal at a cost of \$150. All agreed this is a great organization with lots of mutual benefit. It was moved by Tracy to approve the expenditure, seconded by Roger, no discussion, passed unanimously.

5. **Public Participation:** Laura introduced Robin Lynch, our newest CAC member who will be sworn in soon. Robin told us she lives on Main St, is a nurse and develops educational programs. All welcomed her.

6. **Newtown Art Festival:** The “Art Committee” is new this year and consists of Laura Lerman, Linda Parsloe, Nancy Cole, Andrea Spencer and Barbara Snyder (ex officio). Laura reported that they met recently to discuss selection process for the 2022 art theme and the t-shirts. Nothing is final but the general consensus of the group is:

- T-shirts should be black or grey based on past sales and because those colors are unisex.
- Submission of art requirements have been developed by Linda Parsloe and are already posted on the Newtown Arts Festival website. This is an open call but certain artist familiar to the CAC will also be asked to submit. The deadline will be January 10.
- A press release will go out soon which is being coordinated by Nancy Dvorin who does PR for the Library Book Sale.

7. **Community Center:** There is a “Sip and Shop” fundraiser at the CC on Dec 3rd from 6-9 PM. Jen also reported that the Julia Sykes-Provey artwork created at the Art Festival and sponsored by NAA, will be hung very soon at the CC. They are researching the best hanging system.

8. **Public Art Committee:** Jen reported that they are making great progress in researching policies in other towns and they are working towards a presentation to the appropriate town committees/commissions. The next meeting is Dec 22 and all are invited.

9. **Initiatives-** Discussion centered around “art walks” in other towns and the feasibility of having one in Newtown. Both New Milford and a town in New Hampshire were mentioned.

10. **Municipal Gallery, Artisans’ Showcase:** Flagpole Photographers in the gallery, Potters in the Showcase. Later in December, the Portfolio Class of NHS will have a section of the gallery for their artwork. SCAN coming in January.

11. **Website:** Barbara Snyder is researching companies to develop both the CAC and NAF websites. It was commented that the job should include social media such as Facebook and Instagram. We applied for a grant to help pay for website development but have not heard back yet.

12. **Other Business:** Grant informed the committee that there will be a concert at ETH on 12/3. The performers are Sir Paul, a Paul McCartney tribute band.

There being no other business, Jen moved to adjourn, seconded by Roger, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Tracy Van Buskirk
Secretary
Newtown Cultural Arts Commission