

Newtown Arts Festival Committee Meeting of the Newtown Cultural Arts Commission

Minutes of April 23, 2020

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

The Newtown Arts Festival Committee, NCAC, held a meeting via video conferencing on Thursday, April 23, 2020.

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 by Commission Chairman Laura E.Lerman

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

Member absent: Deborra Zukowski

Auxiliary members: Barbara Snyder

Public: Nancy Cole, Lynn Hungaski

“Boosting” Commission Facebook page: Tracy Van Burkirk reported on the activity on the Cultural Commission Facebook page since the inauguration of the Commission’s project to share the arts.

Tracy moved and Jen Cebry seconded to spend \$100 on “Boosting” Facebook advertising for the Cultural Commission Facebook page. Passed unanimously.

Newtown Arts festival Committee Reports:

- Regarding whether, in light of the Pandemic rules, or not there will be an Arts festival , now set for September 25-27: Laura Lerman reported that the Boston Marathon has been re-scheduled for late September and that Sandy Hook Firehouse has set their “Food Truck Frenzy” for September, both good indicators that there is belief the state will be open by then.
- Barbara Snyder, Festival Chairman:
 - reported that we have begun to solicit and receive applications from Artisans. We have guaranteed the artisans that their entry fees will be returned if the Art festival is cancelled.
 - reported that we are negotiating with a band for Friday night. The band has extensive following in Bridgeport and Fairfield. Town Hall has been reserved for Friday night in case of inclement weather.
 - reported that there has been progress in enlarging how far one can travel from the Wine and Beer Garden with alcohol drinks. Goal is to be able to enjoy the band.
 - reported that, working with our former intern Kelly Rafferty, the website has been built. Barbara had negotiated minimum wage for Kelly. That was raised to \$15.00 an hour, at Andrea’s suggestion.

- Andrea reported that there have been 2 food trucks, our goal, lined up for Friday night.
- Lynn Hungaski has written a letter to solicit sponsorships. All potential sponsors have been assured that, should the Festival be cancelled, their money will be returned.
- Andrea reported that the company that would be printing the t-shirts has had to temporarily close down. They only need 2 weeks to ramp up and print our t-shirts.
- Jim Cebry, Grounds committee, reported that, typically, we give the tent company a \$2500 deposit by the end of June. But they don't require it. We'll be talking with them to see how late we can reserve the tents and incur an expense.
- Treasurer Jim Cebry reported that, based on past expenditures, we need to transfer \$10,000 to the gift account for seed money for the festival. That amount will be discussed and acted upon at the next Commission meeting, May 1.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46.
Moved by Jen Cebry; seconded by Andrea Spencer.