

Middletown Commission on the Arts

Regular Meeting Minutes, June 26, 2013

Present

Lee Godburn (chair)
Charlotte McCoid
Robert Santangelo (council)
Barbara Arafah
Linda Salafia (council)
Hannah Breton (Student rep)
Franca Biales
Richard Kamins
Lea Tomaszewski

Also present

Stephan Allison, staff
Eva Dykas (Art Guild
of Middletown)

Absent

Jenny Hawkins Lecce (sec.)
Fran Ganguli
Cassandra Day (vice-chair)
Joyce Kirkpatrick
Chelsea Rak (student rep)
Lauren Hodge (student rep)

Call to order

Commission Chair Lee Godburn called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the City Arts Office at 100 Riverview Center – Suite 140

Public session: Eva Dykas from The Art Guild of Middletown was in attendance- shared that she has found Arts2go.org very helpful as well as the grant application guidelines found on the City website. She also spoke about the success of the Art Guild's exhibition and the Art for Haiti exhibition curated by Pierre Sylvain, both at the Ezra & Cecile Zilkha Gallery during the same period of time. Barbara Arafah noted that David Bauer also had his work on exhibit in the Art for Haiti exhibition.

Minutes from May 22, 2013

Motion to approve by Commissioner Richard Kamins, seconded by Commissioner Barbara Arafah.
Discussion: none. Carried unanimously

Minutes from Special Meeting June 17, 2013

Motion to approve by Commissioner Charlotte McCoid, seconded by Chair Lee Godburn. Discussion: none. Passed with one abstention: Councilwoman Salafia.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda as written by Commissioner Richard Kamins, seconded by Councilwoman Salafia carried unanimously.

Remarks from the Chair: none

Old Business:

Budget Report – Electronically distributed and reviewed.

Program Update:

Arts Stakeholders Group: no update

Website – Arts2Go.org doing well

Visual art Competition –Staff Allison reported that of the three choices presented, the Mayor likes the festival idea. He thanks the Commission for its work and would like to work on the details with Allison. Councilman Santangelo noted that it will be a big project. Chair Godburn thinks we should consider a taskforce because of the many components of a festival. Commissioner Arafah asked about the time of year in which we would hold this festival.

Committee Reports:

Public Art Committee:

Public Art Collection: Commissioner McCoid-Purchase of painting by Paul Baldassini honors our roots as a farming community.

MCAAAA 2013 – On June 7, Commissioner Lecce presented awards to Seniors as MHS

New acquisition placement/reception- Chair Godburn suggested we have a small reception in honor of Paul Baldassini. Decision needs to be made on where the art will be installed, Public Art Committee will choose.

Planning & Projects Committee: none

Nominating Committee

Review of Bylaws: no report

Nomination suggestions: Nominations have been passed to the Mayor.

Slate of Officers for July elections: Chair-Cassandra Day, Vice-chair-Jenny Hawkins Lecce, Secretary-Franca Biales.

Other: (Publicity Committee, Kids Arts Committee, Archive Committee)

Kids Arts' registrations are still coming in but cut-off will have to be soon.

New Business:

Grant Review Process: Allison will put together list of grantees for board to discuss. Work will be done to streamline Cat. 1 application process

Other: Student reps, Chelsea Rak and Lauren Hodge have graduated, Congratulations. Youth Services Coordinator Justin Carbonella will offer seats to other students.

Miscellaneous:

Announcements: Barbara Arafah spoke with Gov. Malloy and Rep. Matt Lesser about getting more money for the Arts. She noted that CT does not participate in the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA). She also noted that Office for the Arts has been very supportive of "Letter from Italy".

Artists for World Peace presents the 2nd Annual Dance for Peace at The Kate, 300 Main Street, Old Saybrook, on Saturday, June 29, from 6:30pm on, featuring some of the most gifted dancers and musicians from New York, Connecticut, Boston and Providence.

Fireworks in Middletown, July 3 at beginning at 6 pm. Will include Forever Motown-The Middletown Symphonic Band will accompany the fireworks with live music which will be broadcast live on WMRD (1150 AM)/WLIS (1420 AM). Along with great entertainment there will also be great vendors.

July 3 also begins the concert series at Wadsworth Mansion with the Hartford Jazz Orchestra

Saturday, June 29, 2013: Reception at Highlawn, the beautiful home of George and Camille Camp, for the Middlesex County Historical Society. For more information, call the Society at 860-346-0746.

Adjournment: Commissioner Kamins moved to adjourn at 7:58 p.m., seconded by Commissioner McCoid. Carried. The MCA will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on July 24, 2013 in room 208, Municipal Building, 245 Dekoven Drive.

Respectfully submitted,

Franca Biales