



**Town of East Hartford  
Commission on Culture and Fine Arts  
740 Main St.  
East Hartford, CT 06108-3114**

East Hartford Raymond Library  
840 Main Street  
East Hartford, CT 06108  
Meeting Minutes  
January 12, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Roz White called meeting to order at 7:02 PM

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Amanda Ackley, Tamara Bryan-Churchro, Joan Coates, Glynis McKenzie, Sara Morgan, Emilio Estrella, Thomas Lumpkin, Michael MacDonald, Lakisher K. Hurst, Lisa Gold, Susan Tukey, and Rosamond White

**ABSENT**

**EXCUSED:** Prescille Yamamoto

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** November 10, 2022

Motion by Joan Coates to approve minutes of November 10, 2022, with the following corrections.

To remove "name of" under EPSYF update.

Motion seconded by Lakisher Hurst.

Motion approved. One abstention -vote 11-1

**CHAIR'S REPORT:**

Connor Martin will be doing better publishing of our events.

Tickets at Christmas didn't go so well at Theater Works. They offered another show, February 5<sup>th</sup> matinee at 2:30. The show is Queen Basel and we will have 20 tickets and sell them for \$10 each. Tickets will be available Thursday/Friday/Saturday/Sunday 1/26-29/23 at the library, during library open hours.

Submitted budget for next year, didn't ask for any increase.

Would like to have the Bell Ringers back for next year. Discussion held on whether to have them return or the Ringers had in the past. S. Tukey stated that the Ringers from Merrimack Valley are far better than the Shoreline Valley we had this time. S. Tukey will contact them earlier for next Holiday performance.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** NONE

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **Children Library Programs and Library Director's Report:**

1. Each year the library budget per ordinance must be brought to the Commission before presented to the Mayor and Town council.

Permanent service is our fulltime staff -2% increase across the board for nonunion staff-per the Town.

Requesting a small increase in entry-level part-time employees from \$15 to \$17 an hour.

Increases are related to service expansion-Wickham Library.

Line item - Small Business moved to combine with library programs.

Public computers to be replaced by new ones from town hall, staff computers are being upgraded.

Requesting new initiatives -permanent funding for enrichment programs, 2 1.5 staff members, and eliminate late fees, which hasn't been charged since COVID.

Wickham library hasn't received the CO yet.

Emilo Estrella has late fees questions. How many \$ are collected in a year for fees. We only charge .01 a day as a fee. When money is collected it goes to general fund and not the library. Library will continue to charge a replacement cost of a book. Bills would be emailed earlier than monthly as previously done.

2. Applied for grants-

1. we would be the coordinator of a 17-town collaborative to sign up for internet from home.

2. expand the navigator program; give out laptops, chrome books to eligible residents; adult ed students, CT hire Program etc.

December programs was busy. January is a slow start.

Concert- at the CC In the auditorium 1/19 at 7PM Dan O'Brien's Band of Disfunction and Jazz from the high school and middle school band.

**EHSYF:** Joan Coates reports – show has been chosen TBA later.

Discussion held on tickets purchased by CCFA.

J. Coates states that a fundraiser will be held on April 22 or 29. Location is a problem. It will be a Cabaret. Seeking sponsorship for insurance to be able to secure a location with the town. Commission will support as usual

**FILM SERIES:** next film is 1/21/23 Compartment No. 6 at CCC at 7pm, admission is free. Next in series 2/18/23; 3/18/23; and 4/15/23.

**MUSIC:** Chair reports that we still have \$850 in budget, should do something in the spring

**ARTS:** September 23

**POETRY/DANCE:** reviewed proposal at last meeting. Library has a good person, Roland. Reach out to her. Spoken word is good. Reward/prizes discussed. April is poetry month. Amanda idea-offer a digital portfolio.

**IMMIGRATION EVENTS:** Japan week April – opening reception 4/21/23 5:30-8 at Wickham Library. Japan events will be next week. Four locations- Raymond Library, Wickham Library, 2 at the Senior Center and the rest at St. Joseph University (also a sponsor).

Chair requests to have commissioners attend the events we sponsor. Only way we can engage with residents.

Amanda asks are you looking for other shows/events. Discussion held

Glynis McKenzie reports that the Paul Bisaccia concert was well attended.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Juneteenth event - yes

Sounds of Summer- East Hartford Night –

Gave \$1200 for this last year, would keep this as a standard.

suggestion to not hold 2<sup>nd</sup> or last Thursday of July or do the first week of August.

Further discussion held on events and what is appropriate for the commission to sponsor.

Showcase of bands put on for all State Parks & Recs-held in Manchester this year.

Date is 2/16/23 9-3:30 at Leisure Labs Mahoney Center 110 Cedar St in Manchester

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Motion by Glynis McKenzie to pay clerk \$100, motion seconded by Joan Coates. All in favor, motion approved.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn by Tamara Bryan-Churchro; seconded by Joan Coates

Adjourned at 8:31 PM

Next meeting will be February 9, 2023, at the EH Library in meeting room 1