



**TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD**  
**Commission on Culture and Fine Arts**  
**East Hartford Raymond Library**  
**840 Main Street**  
**East Hartford, CT 06108**  
**Meeting**  
**March 10, 2022**

**CHAIR:** Meeting was called with a quorum at 7:10 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Joan Coates, Lisa Gold, Glynis McKenzie, Sarah Morgan ex-officio, Prescille Yamamoto, Thomas Lumpkin, Emilio Estrella, Susan Tukey, Michael MacDonald, Tamara Bryan-Chuchro, and Rosamond White.

**UNEXCUSED ABSENT:** Joanne Covey, and Annabelle Diaz.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** None

- I. CHAIR'S REPORT:** The Chair welcome two residents' guests (Amanda Ackley and a friend of Com. Thomas Lumpkin) and Steven Strange, President of the Historic Society. Introduction of the newest Com. Tamara Bryan-Chuchro to the board. The president emphasized the importance of attending meetings and communication when one is not able to attend. Going forward, the Chair wants every Commissioner to bring a project/event/program to discuss for 2022 – 2023 season. The commission will also work on the residual budget for 2021-22 and start on 2022-2023 at the next meetings.
- II. CORRESPONDENCE:** None
- III. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- **Children's Library Programs:**
  - **Sarah Morgan, Library Director:** March – May library programs are published, and include virtual, in-person, and hybrid programs.  
Wickham construction is delayed by at least a month due to supply chain issues.  
Funding for the Town to purchase the Main St. Post Office was included in the federal omnibus spending bill.  
In advance of the May meeting, I'll ask the Commission to review a draft Collection Development Policy (how we select our library materials). Our current policy is outdated and requires revision.
  - **Black History: 2022-23 February – start thinking of something.**
  - **Caribbean Heritage Month: June in conjunction with Juneteenth Celebration**
  - **Dance:** Com. Roz recommended a dance class from Arthur Murray. Cost approximately \$150 per person per session. Will sponsor 3 classes to the Town of East Hartford. Tabled for further discussion once we are able to find out if \$150 is for person or for session from Arthur Murray Dance Studios.
  - **East Hartford Summer Youth Festival (EHSYF):** Com. Glynis reported they will be having a virtual Cabaret in late April – early May. She requested the Commission purchase 3 cameras for the EHSYF. Com. Joan mentioned tryouts will be announced in May.

**Motioned by: Com.** Glynis McKenzie for the commission to contribute to the purchase of 3 cameras that will be used for East Hartford Summer Youth Festival (EHSYF) and future events associated with this Commission in the amount of \$1,000.

**Seconded: Com.** Thomas Lumpkin

**All in Favor:** Motion Carried

- **Film Series:** Glynis said March 12, 2022 will be the screening date of the first movie. In the event of inclement weather, the screening will become part of a double feature in April. The first film is “The Guilty” from Denmark. The second film is “Woman at War” from Iceland. Glynis requested John Bacon be paid \$50 per movie as per past practice.
- **Music:** The Steel Band will be scheduled for the Fall of 2022.  
Tom Scavone from the Board of Education forwarded Com. Prescille a note and a link to U-Tube on a drumming practice. Com. Prescille announced Paul Bisaccia is scheduled to perform Sunday, 2:00 pm April 24, 2022 at First Congregation Church. Com. Lisa will coordinate the PR/Media coverage for the concert. Com. Glynis will work on creating the programs for the concert. Com. Roz suggested, in token of appreciation for his free concerts to the Town of East Hartford

**Motioned by: Com.** Michael MacDonald moved to give \$250 to Paul Bisaccia as a token of appreciation.

**Second: Com.** Tamara Bryan-Chuchro

**All in Favor:** Motion Carried

- **Mini Grants:** Com. Prescille Yamamoto received a note from Tom Scavone, Supervisor Fine & Performing Arts that the Mariachi Band Concert has been postponed and rescheduled for 3/16/2022 from 4:20 pm to 5:20 pm.
- **Poetry / Poet Laureate:** No event
- **Sounds of Summer:** The Chair discussed that in order for the Commission to support the program an East Hartford Band should be selected. Recommendation of having it on a night we are not meeting and to have an East Hartford Night promoting CCFA and the town.  
**Motioned by:** Com. Glynis McKenzie moved to pay \$1,200 to the Sounds of Summer  
**Seconded by: Com.** Lisa Gold  
**All in Favor:** Motion carried.
- **Art League Festival 2022:** Historical Society collaboration
- **Art Show:** Steven Strange, President of the Historic Society, discussed the funding of the Brewer House Rose Garden. The Historic Society would like to have an Art Show, a mayor dedication to make a gateway to East Hartford and to restore the Brewer House for public use and make it a museum. Steven recommended making a dedication name, plaque on the Rose Garden, have a ribbon cutting including the Mayor and Director of Parks and Recreation to be scheduled sometime on a Saturday, July. Sarah Morgan who will be orchestrating collaboration including the Commission of the event tabled further discussions until we receive a proposal for the event for further discussion at the April and May 2022 Commission meetings.
- Com. Roz discussed the fact that the commission was not able to do an event for MLK day or Black History Month because of not having a quorum; she would like to proposed an event for Juneteenth and Caribbean which is June collaborating with different sectors of the town. The festival would be a clone of the Fall Festival geared specifically highlighting the culture of the theme. Co. Roz proposed the commission sponsors the entertainers for the festival.

**Motioned by: Com.** Prescille Yamamoto moved to allocated \$2,500 for the Juneteenth event.

**Seconded by:** Com. Thomas Lumpkin

**All in Favor:** Motion Carried

\$100.00 Judith Beeman (Clerk's Fee) February 10, 2022  
\$1,200.00 Flor Bromley, Children's Library Kick-Off program  
\$570.00 Liberty Belles-Anne Pasquale's Living History Program scheduled for June 4,2022.-  
**invoice received**  
\$150.00 Ken Longhorn – Piano tuning for Paul Bisaccia concert on April 24, 2022  
\$1,100.00 Nelson Bello Latin Jazz Quintet performing Saturday, June 25, 2022

**Motioned by:** Prescille Yamamoto  
**Seconded by:** Lisa Gold  
**All in favor:** Motion Carried

\$100.00 Judith Beeman, Clerk Fee for March meeting  
\$500.00 Masem Enyong:Afrobeat Fun for all -  
\$1000.00 Boogie Chillum  
\$250.00 Paul Bisaccia, Token of appreciation  
\$100.00 John Bacon, Showing March & April, 2022 Showing movies @ \$50 each  
\$1,000.00 EHSYF donation toward 3 Cameras  
\$1,200.00 Sounds of Summer EH resident – East Hartford Night  
\$1,000.00 EHSYF contribution to annual program  
\$2,500.00 Juneteenth Family Celebration – June 18<sup>th</sup>

**Motioned by:** Prescille Yamamoto moved to pay the bills.  
**Seconded by :** Joan Coates  
**All in favor: Motion Carried**

**V. MEMBER'S CONCERNS:** Utilizing more performances at the Town Green for the East Hartford residents and the library's lawn.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS:** An Honorary Proclamation was proposed to give Paul Bisaccia for contributing free Concerts, tapes, and continuing support entertaining at Winter Fest.  
A proclamation was recommended for Toshiko Uchino for her various works with the library and other voluntary work. One of the Commissioner will work on the proclamation to submit to the mayor's office.

**Motioned by:** Prescille Yamamoto move to approve the Honorary Proclamation and Proclamation  
**Seconded by:** Joan Coates  
**All in Favor:** Motion Carried

**VII. OLD BUSINESS:** Due to outstanding bills the 2021-2022 available budget is not available Budget will be done future meetings prior to fiscal yearend.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motioned by:** Tamara Bryan-Chuchro moved to adjourn the meeting 8:30 pm  
**Seconded by:** Joan Coates  
**All in Favor:** Motion carried

The next meeting of the Commission on Culture and Fine Arts will be held at 7:00 pm on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at the East Hartford Raymond Library Reference Room, 840 Main St, East Hartford, CT.

Respectfully submitted,