



**TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD**  
**Commission on Culture and Fine Arts**  
**EHCCC**  
**50 Chapman Place – Room 12**  
**East Hartford, CT 06108**  
**MINUTES**  
**Meeting of February 13, 2020**

Chair Rosamond White called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Joan Coates, Joanne Covey, Lisa Gold, Glynis McKenzie, Sarah Morgan, Judy Okeson, Dan Russell, Betty Russell, Rosamond White, and Prescille Yamamoto.

**ABSENT:** Regina Barall, Terrye Blackstone, and Susan Tukey. Excused is Gloria Visgilo-Lupi.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion:** Judy Okeson moved to approve the January 9, 2020 Minutes.

**Second:** Joan Coates

**Corrections:** Under Approval of Bills: correct name to Bill Lawhorn.

**Second:** Prescille Yamamoto

**All in Favor:** Motion carried

**Abstain:** Glynis McKenzie

- II. CHAIR'S REPORT:** Rosamond White wrote a News Letter - *Lead by Example* - to the Commissioners to review including upcoming February, 2020 events. She discussed her future goals as Chair. She discussed her leadership style and her objectives for the Commission. Her intention is to create a newsletter every meeting, maybe showcasing a member.

The Chair reached out to Art League Chair, Holly Reed in an email introducing herself as the new Chair for the Commission on Culture and Fine Arts, the Commission's procedures, voting on payments, and upcoming events. Rosamond also expressed to Holly to attend a meeting and present to the Commission her yearly upcoming events that the Art League would like the Commission to sponsor. Holly responded that she is willing to work with us.

- III. CORRESPONDENCE:** Tracy Kane, Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts has announced that she will be leaving as of February 14, 2020.

The Beautification Commission wishes to extend their deepest appreciation to the Commission for helping to celebrate **27 years** along with us and made Holiday Fest 2019 an outstanding success.

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Children Library Programs:** Hartford Symphony Orchestra's Instrument Discovery Lab and Take your Child to the Library event was held on Saturday, February 1, 2020. It was a great turnout. Prescille Yamamoto commented on the wonderful feedback from some of the attendees and encouragement for the children to play an instrument.

Sarah Morgan announced that **Nappy's Puppets is schedule for Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 6:30.**

**Dance:** No report.

**EHSYF:** Glynis McKenzie commented that the name of this year's musical production show will be announced at the reveal party on February 15, 2020 at 7:00pm to be held at the Veteran's Memorial Club House. She also stated the name of the new director will be announced.

Glynis shared that they will be having a Cabaret and Silent Auction on April 26, 2020 at 3:00 pm.

Glynis will have the **Pasta Sauce** order forms available at the March 12, 2020 meeting.

**EHSYF TICKETS IN 2020:** April 9, 2020 discussion.

**Film Series:** Glynis McKenzie commented she had a good turnout for Red Joan, January's film series. The following are the next scheduled films: **Shoplifters** – show date changed to February 22, 2020; **The Guilty** – March 21, 2020; **Women at War** – April 18, 2020.

**Logo:** Rosamond White and Lisa Gold are holding a contest for 'East Hartford Residents only' attending the High Schools during the month of February, 2020.

**Mini Grants:** Betty Russell received a letter from Katie Farber at Pitkin School thanking the Commission for the Mini Grant award. Betty also received a partial list of scheduled dates the Mini Grant awards will perform.

**Music:** Sarah Morgan reported on **New State Troubadour Neikta Waller** performance was well received by a diverse audience both young and elderly.

Prescille Yamamoto announced that Paul Bisaccia has confirmed to perform at First Congregational Church on May 17, 2020 at 2:00 pm. She made arrangements to have the piano tuned before the concert.

**Poetry / Poet Laureate: John Stanizzi and Marilyn Johnson's** poetry reading is scheduled for **Thursday, February 27, 2020** at 6:30 pm.

**Sarah Morgan, Library Director** Sarah Morgan reviewed the 2020 Library Budget with the Commission.

**Sounds of Summer:** Rosamond White spoke with Sean Dwyer at the Parks & Recreation Dept. regarding the Summer Music Festival and would like to collaborate and work together to sponsor talent from East Hartford.

**Art League Festival 2020:** Scheduled Saturday, May 9, 2020 from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm.

**Art Programs/Demos/Exhibits:** No report.

**Black History:** Rosamond White reported **Birtherd Out of Africa**, a 70 minutes musical production, will be held on Saturday February 29, 2019 at 3:30 pm, (Snow date March 7, 2020) at the East Hartford Community Cultural Center, 50 Chapman Place, East Hartford. An Introduction by East Hartford's own, drummer Alvin Carter. This event is appropriate for all ages and attendance is **free** of charge. For additional information please call Roz White (860)580-9004.

**Tammy Denease Richardson** will perform at the Library, a character from '**Hidden Women**' on Saturday February 15, 2020 at 3:00 pm.

**Bus Trip:** No report.

**Caribbean Month:** Rosamond White shared her ideas and Caribbean history. She will update the Commission at the next meeting.

**V. APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

\$80.00 Judith Beeman (Clerk's Fee)  
\$100.00 John Bacon (January and February 2020 Film Screening)  
\$500.00 East Hartford Public Library (Black History Tammy Denease 2/15/2020 program)  
\$350.00 East Hartford Public Library (Nappy's Puppets performance 4/16/2020)  
\$1,500.00 Mary Taylor/DBA Productions (Black History February 29, 2020 Birth out of Africa)

**Motion by:** Judy Okeson moved to approve the payment of bills.

**Second:** Joanne Covey

**All in Favor:** Motion Carried

**Abstain:** Prescille Yamamoto

**VI. MEMBER'S CONCERNS:** No report.

- VII. NEW BUSINESS:** Rosamond White introduced the Commissioners to Fangzheng Xin, the Chinese Exchange teacher at East Hartford High School. He had asked the Commission to work with him. Fangzheng Xin spoke to the Commissioners that he wanted to share and teach the paper cutting, lanterns, calligraphy, Tai Chi, history and stories of his culture. Sarah Morgan reminded him that he is scheduled for the following dates at the library: *Saturday, March 28, 2020 at 2pm to demonstrate Paper Lanterns, on Saturday April 4, 2020 a Calligraphy Workshop, and on Saturday May 16, 2020, weather permitting, Tai Chi at 3pm.* Prescille Yamamoto suggested he contact the Senior Center. Glynis McKenzie suggested a movie of the life in China with English subtitles.

Sarah Morgan announced a possible opportunity for collaboration for the next school year. Different sources of funding, grants funds for sixth graders at Sunset Ridge School to split Library orientation, tour, maker space activities, and with a tour to see a performer.

- VIII. OLD BUSINESS:** Prescille Yamamoto will have the 2019 – 2020 Budget update available to view at the March 12, 2020 meeting.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion by:** Joanne Covey moved to adjourn the meeting 8:35 pm

**Second:** Dan Russell

**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, March 12, 2020 at the EHCCC, 50 Chapman Place – Room 12, East Hartford, CT 06108.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Beeman, Clerk