



**TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD**  
**Commission on Culture and Fine Arts**  
**EHCCC**  
**50 Chapman Place**  
**East Hartford, CT 06108**  
**MINUTES**  
**Meeting of June 14, 2018**

Prescille Yamamoto called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**I. ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Regina Barall, Terrye Blackstone, Joan Coates, Lisa Gold, Glynis McKenzie, Sarah Morgan, Judy Okeson, Maureen Rodgers, Dan Russell, Betty Russell, Florence Schroeter, and Prescille Yamamoto.

**ABSENT:** Robert Dorn, Todney Harris, Karen Howe, and Susan Tukey. Called in – Joanne Covey and Gloria Gisgilio-Lupi.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion by:** Betty Russell moved to approve the May 10, 2018 minutes for the Commission on Culture and Fine Arts.

**Second:** Maureen Rodgers

**All in Favor:** Motion Carried

- III. CHAIR'S REPORT:** The Chair commented on an email she sent to the Commissioners with email on program suggestions sent by Sarah Morgan, Director of the Raymond Library. She reported on the balance in the 2017 - 2018 Budget and suggested the Commissioners take a careful look at some programs. Parks and Recreation informed her that Al Fenton Big Band will be performing for the Sounds of Summer concert series which we will co-sponsor for \$500.

Terrye Blackstone will have bills for the 2018 Art League Festival.

The Chair announced that Richard Kehoe, Chair of the East Hartford Town Council will be attending the July 12, 2018 meeting.

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Sarah Morgan, Library Director:** Sarah spoke on the following:

- renovation at the Wickham Library and meeting with the architects,
- the restoration and repair of the bronze statue at the Raymond Library;
- an event planned for the fall and working with a community group to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary at the end of the war;
- request for approval by the Town Council to apply for two grants: from the CT Office for the Arts a \$15,000 grant (which the town will provide some matching funds) that would provide funding support for a large-scale project, and a grant from the State Library that would provide professional opportunities for four library staff to travel to Rhode Island for three sets of training on Innovation; and
- spoke to the Commission funding for future programs.

**Mini Grants:** Prescille Yamamoto received a phone call from Becky Johansen, Secretary to Tracy Kane, Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts for East Hartford Public School, requesting to meet with Betty Russell, Prescille Yamamoto and another Committee Member to discuss expanding the Mini Grant program on June 25, 2018 at the convenience of the host, Betty Russell.

**Music:** Florence Schroeter is waiting for Ken Lawhorn's May 2018 invoice for the piano tuning not to exceed \$120.

**Poetry:** Florence Schroeter mentioned that Poet John Stanizzi's reading was fabulous. Sarah Morgan commented that his poetry books have been cataloged and are available for circulation in the new book area, and she plans to schedule another reading in the fall.

**Poet Laureate:** No report.

**Sounds of Summer:** Al Fenton Big Band will be performing on July 26, 2018 at Great River Park.

**Art League Festival:** Terrye Blackstone congratulated all the artists who participated in the 2018 Spring Art Festival. There were over 100 paintings on display. She announced the winners:

- 1) **Purchase Award – Fine Arts Commission:** Awarded to Diana Lyn Cote for Oil Painting, "Lion Cub"
- 2) **Mayor's Award - \$100 value:** Awarded to Susan Bellaflour for hand-made quilt, "Yo-Yo Quilt"
- 3) **Blackstone Best in Show Award - \$200 value:** Awarded to Diana Lyn Cote for Oil Painting, "Iris by the Pond"
- 4) **Reed Family Award - \$100 value:** Awarded to Steven Strange for Acrylic Painting, "Aranjuez"
- 5) **Wandy Family Award - \$100 value:** Awarded to Marilyn Pet for Oil Painting, "Douglas & Justine"
- 6) **Discount Trophy Award – Desk Clock, \$35 value – First Prize – originality:** Awarded to Neil LeFebvre for Acrylic Design, "Double Bubble"
- 7) **Anderson's Jewelry Award – Desk Clock, \$35 value:** Awarded to Keishi Pet for Bonsai arrangement, "Growing Things"
- 8) **Art League Award - \$50 Gift Card – First Prize – use of color:** Awarded to Layne Marholin for Oil Painting, "Umbrella Patio"
- 9) **Art League Award - \$50 Gift Card – First Prize – composition:** Awarded to Danielle Bagdoniate for Oil Painting, "Calila"
- 10) **Art League Award - \$25 Gift Card – First Prize – photography or alternate media:** Awarded to Lidya Petrus for Photograph, "The Path"
- 11) **Art League Award - \$25 Gift Card – First Prize – new artist:** Awarded to Jane Maciel for Oil Painting, "Throw Me a Lifeline"
- 12) **Art League Award - \$50 Gift Card – First Prize – landscape art:** Awarded to Mary Guasta for Acrylic Painting, "Elizabeth Park"

Sarah Morgan reached out to Nancy Whitcher, Adjudicator for the 2018 Art League Festival in advance, sending her a brief note that described the type of art the Library hopes to acquire, recognizing the decision is entirely up to the Adjudicator. Sarah also gave her a tour of the library art collection so she can learn more of what we have and to get a better understanding of the art that we own. Nancy's decision at the Art Festival was very much in keeping with the art we are seeking.ra

Terrye Blackstone gave a bill of \$575 for the Purchase Award and is waiting for the invoices for the Calligrapher, Photographer, and plate for the Purchase Award not to exceed \$100.

**Art Show – Teachers:** Maureen Rodgers met with Tracy Kane, Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts for East Hartford Public Schools. They are aiming for November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 to have the Art Show at the Brewer House.

**Cue & Curtain Players:** Joan Coates commented that they are working on a fall show and a presentation separate from EHSYF for Holiday Fest.

**Dance - Around the World:** Reggie Barall stated that the tribute to our military show had a great turn out. She complimented Glynis McKenzie for write-up and the publicity. A discussion took place on the theme and the children performing. Glynis McKenzie suggested it was more of a variety show than a military tribute.

**EHSYF:** Rehearsals for Disney's High School Musical start on Monday June 18, 2018 and will be held at EHCCC for the first few days and then moving to the East Hartford Middle School. The show will be held at East Hartford Middle School on July 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm, July 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm and on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 2:00 pm.

**Library Programs:** Sarah Morgan distributed to the Commissioners the June, July, and August, 2018 East Hartford Public Library calendar. She also handed out the Japan Week June 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 poster presented by Toshiko Uchino, the US and Japan Society of Connecticut, and Heart of International Japan. *Japan Week schedule is as follows: Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> "Origami for Beginners" from 10:00 – 11:00 am; Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> "Wrapping the Japanese" from 6:00 -7:00 pm; Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> "Animation Workshop for Kids!" from 2:00 – 4:00 pm; Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> "Kimono Class" from 10:00 -11:00 am; Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> "An Evening of Haiku" from 6:30 – 7:30 pm; and on Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup> Friday Family Film: "My Neighbor Totoro" from 2:00 – 4:00 pm.*

On Saturday, July 14, 2018 the Commission will be co-sponsoring "The Hartford Steel Symphony," a steel drum band with the Raymond Library on the opening of the "Chadwick Cromwell" Art exhibit.

The Tea Ceremony in the fall has been postponed due to the availability of the Tea Master.

**VI. APPROVAL OF BILLS:** The additional motions were made for approval of bills as follows:

**Motion:** Maureen Rodgers motion that we subsidize the registration for the first 40 participants (\$25 each for EHSYF program = \$1,000).

**Second:** Lisa Gold

**All in Favor:** Motion Carried

**Motion:** Glynis McKenzie motion to purchase Diana Lyn Cote's Art Book "Gratitude" for \$75 for the Library's Collection.

**Second:** Betty Russell

**All in Favor:** Motion carried

**Motion:** Glynis McKenzie motion to contribute \$325 toward the Library's Japan Week.

**Second:** Dan Russell

**All in Favor:** Motion carried

**Motion:** Dan Russell motion to purchase a "Stanwick Cromwell" painting for the Library up to \$2,500.00.

**Second:** Maureen Rodgers

**All in Favor:** Motion carried

**Motion:** Joan Coates motion to contribute \$500 towards Cue & Curtain Players publicity.

**Second:** Dan Russell

**All in Favor:** Motion carried

**Motion:** Maureen Rodgers motion to underwrite upgrading the sound systems for EHSYF at a cost of \$1,000.00.

**Second:** Betty Russell

**All in Favor:** Motion Carried.

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| \$ 80.00   | Judith Beeman (Clerk's Fee)   |
| \$575.00   | Diana Lyn Cote (Purchase award winner)  |
| \$120.00   | Ken Lawhorn (Pay up to for Piano Tuning /May/2018)  |
| \$ 75.00   | East Hartford Public Library (Purchase "Gratitude" by Diana Lyn Cote)                           |
| \$325.00   | East Hartford Public Library (Partial Reimbursement toward cost of Japan Week) June 25-29/2018) |
| \$2,500.00 | East Hartford Public Library (Purchase "Stanwick Cromwell" painting)                            |

Approval of Bills continued:

\$1,000.00 EHSYF (Upgrade Sound System)  
\$500.00 Sounds of Summer (Al Fenton Big Band July 26, 2018 at Great River Park)  
\$500.00 Cue & Curtain Players, Inc. (Contribute toward Publicity)  
\$1,000.00 EHSYF (Registration Fee to subsidize the first 40 to register)  
\$100.00 Miscellaneous (Pay up to toward 2018 Art League Festival for Calligraphy,  
Plate, and Photo of Purchase Award)

**Motion by:** Dan Russell moved to approve the bills.

**Second:** Joan Coates

**All in Favor:** Motion carried

**VII. MEMBER'S CONCERNS:** Florence Schroeter commented on the Library Board.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:** No Report.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS:** No Report.

**X. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion by:** Lisa Gold moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 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 p.m. on Thursday, July 12, 2018 at the East Hartford Community Cultural Center, 50 Chapman Place, East Hartford, Connecticut, in Room 12.

Respectfully submitted,

*Judith Beeman*

Judith Beeman, Clerk