



**TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD
Commission on Culture and Fine Arts
EHCCC
50 Chapman Place
East Hartford, CT 06108
MINUTES
Meeting of July 12, 2018**

Prescille Yamamoto called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

I. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Regina Barall, Terrye Blackstone, Joan Coates, Joanne Covey, Lisa Gold, Glynis McKenzie, Gloria Visgilio-Lupi, Sarah Morgan, Judy Okeson, Maureen Rodgers, Dan Russell, Betty Russell, Florence Schroeter, Susan Tukey, and Prescille Yamamoto.

ABSENT: Robert Dorn, Todney Harris, and Karen Howe.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by: Betty Russell moved to approve the June 14, 2018 minutes for the Commission on Culture and Fine Arts.

Second:

Corrections: Under Library Programs: should read 'unavailability of the Tea Master'. Under Old Business: Change Cultural to 'Culture.'

All in Favor: Motion Carried

III. CHAIR'S REPORT: The Chair delayed the Chair's report and welcomed Richard Kehoe, Chairman of the East Hartford Town Council.

Richard spoke to the Commissioners regarding the name change to the "Commission on Culture and Fine Arts" and the merging with the Library Board. He said the general thought was to promote the arts and by using the word 'culture', it broadens the spectrum, allowing the Commission to do more as does merging with the Library Board.

He also mentioned that the Town will be reviewing attendance of Commissions. At the end of each year, a review will be made and Commissioners who miss 50% or more of their meetings will be considered resigned from their position. Exceptions will be considered, and Commissioners will need to present their case to the Council for reconsideration for the rest of their term.

The Chair reported that she has not received the approved budget and will contact Mike Walsh, Finance Director when he returns from vacation.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE: None

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Music: Florence Schroeter is still waiting for Ken Lawhorn's May 2018 invoice for the piano tuning.

Glynis McKenzie received an email from The Greater Hartford Opera Ensemble with their desire and availability to perform in May or early June, 2019. This would be included in the 2018 - 2019 Budget.

Betty Russell will check with the Holiday Fest Committee on Paul Bisaccia performing.

Joanne Covey suggested an opera. There is an opera company out of Middletown that she will check into and present at the next meeting.

Poetry: Maureen Rodgers would like to sponsor Poet John Stanizzi or another Poet in the 2018-2019 Budget - \$150. Her thought is to showcase our people from East Hartford even though they moved on to other areas.

Poet Laureate: Glynis McKenzie commented on Glastonbury's new Poet Laureate, Dr Michael Lepore.

Sarah Morgan, Library Director: Sarah commented that the Library's summer numbers have been really strong. Four hundred people have attended programs since school got out. The reading program is going strong. They have a partnership with the East Hartford Public Schools to register every child in summer school for their summer school reading program.

Terrye Blackstone announced that she had donated the film "America the Beautiful" to the Library.

Diana Lyn Cote's book has been purchased, but not yet received as it is printed on demand.

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

Art League Festival: Terrye Blackstone would like to add the 2019 Art League Festival to the 2018-2019 Budget - Proposed budget of \$3,000.

Art Show – Teachers: Maureen Rodgers stated we have been approved by the Parks and Recreation for the use of the Brewer House for the Teachers Art Show to be held on Friday November 2, 2018 from 4 :00 pm – 7:00 pm and on Saturday, November 3rd, 2018 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. She will check with Tracy Kane, Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts for East Hartford Public Schools to select a time available to open up the building to set up the art. Proposed budget of \$300 for the 2018 – 2019 Budget.

Bus Trip: Glynis McKenzie and Judy Okeson talked about a bus trip to the Hudson River Valley to visit 2 homes of artists from the Hudson River School of Painting. They are gathering up information to present at the next meeting.

Children Program: Sarah Morgan proposed \$500 for the 2018-2019 Budget. She will present a list of choices at the next meeting.

Cue & Curtain Players: Joan Coates commented that they will be performing "Deathtrap" by Ira Levin on November 9 and 10, 2018 to be held at the East Hartford Cultural Community Center. She proposed \$1,000 for the 2018-2019 Budget.

Dance – Reggie Barall stated she will be developing a diversity program and will be conducting two dance programs for the 2018 -2019 Budget and would like to use the same amount for each dance. Dance 1 will include music and her goal is to embrace the community in a different way. Her plan for Dance 2 will include music and also embracing diversity for our veterans in our community with the Graham Ralph Cocktail Trio.

Dan Russell suggested that Reggie give the Commission an outline regarding the costs involved for each dance.

EHSYF: Joan Coates reported "Disney's High School Musical" will be performed at East Hartford Middle School on Friday July 27 and Saturday July 28 at 7:30 pm and on Sunday July 29 at 2:00 pm.

Glynis McKenzie reported that on Friday, July 13, 2018 that they will be performing at Sweet Frog in Manchester between 6 pm – 9 pm. On Sunday, July 23, 2018 at Margaritas they will hold an all day, dining out fundraiser.

Proposed \$1,500 for the 2018 – 2019 Budget.

Film Series: Glynis McKenzie is requesting \$1,750 for the 2018 – 2019 Budget.

Library Programs: Sarah Morgan, Director of the Raymond Library reminded the Commission that on Saturday, July 14, 2018 the Commission will be co-sponsoring "The Hartford Steel Symphony," a steel drum band from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Raymond Library for the opening of the "Chadwick Cromwell" art exhibit. The Art exhibit will continue through September, 2018.

She said Japan week was a success and discussed the programs. She mentioned that it might become an annual event.

She reiterated that participation in the summer reading programs is strong and encouraged members to sign up for the adult summer reading program - there are prizes.

Mini Grants: Betty Russell reported on the meeting with Tracy Kane, Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts for East Hartford Public School, on June 25, 2018. They will be revising the application.

Add \$3,000 for the 2018-2019 Budget.

VI. APPROVAL OF BILLS:

\$80.00 Judith Beeman (Clerk's Fee)

Motion by: Dan Russell moved to approve the bills.

Second: Joan Coates

All in Favor: Motion carried

VII. MEMBER'S CONCERNS: No report.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS: No Report.

IX. OLD BUSINESS: The Commission's logo was discussed with Richard Kehoe. He suggested presenting costs for new logo designs to the Council.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: Florence Schroeter moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm

Second: Susan Tukey

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, September 13, 2018 at the East Hartford Community Cultural Center, 50 Chapman Place, East Hartford, Connecticut, in Room 12.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Beeman

Judith Beeman, Clerk