

Arts Commission Meeting Minutes  
April 24, 2007

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

**Attendance**

Present:

Lisa D'Andrea  
Aldona LaPorta  
Craig Malone

Ty Smith  
Nancy Wilcox

Absent:

Frank Alcorace  
Suzanne Crean  
Margie Paul-Gaston

**Officer's Report**

Secretary's Report

Minutes for March were presented. Ty Smith motioned to accept the minutes. Aldona LaPorta seconded. The motion was passed. The calendar will be revised each month. Nancy Wilcox will mail minutes to commissioners or send via email addresses; minutes will be emailed to Nancy DiMeo who will continue to send out agendas and meeting reminders from Town Hall.

Treasurer's Report

Balance with encumbered expenses as listed is \$2729.11. Craig Malone motioned to accept the financial report. Aldona LaPorta seconded. The motion was passed.

**Public Comment**

Anthony Sorge, an English teacher at NHS, presented a proposal from the Literary Club. A copy of the proposal is attached. The club is an after-school program not funded by the school. The club is currently working with the Palace Theater Youth Poetry Slam and may become involved. The group is looking for ways to include community or become involved in community poetry events within the restrictions of a school sponsored activity.

There was discussion about a Poetry Slam event. If the commission sponsored a Poetry Slam they would need a space, microphones and amplification, an audience, and publicity. There would be an open mike format. Poems would be submitted at the door for approval. Anthony would be willing to serve as an official approver, checking for appropriateness, etc. The commission would offer refreshments, perhaps for a donation to the scholarship fund.

The club also publishes a yearly magazine and would appreciate any monetary assistance the commission might provide with the costs. The club is looking to increase the number of books printed since demand is growing.

Anthony can be reached at [anthonysorge@hotmail.com](mailto:anthonysorge@hotmail.com) or [sorgea@naugy.net](mailto:sorgea@naugy.net).

## **Old Business**

### Summer Concert Series

The schedule will be adjusted due to the cancellation of the *Jeski* contract. *Jeski* cancelled due to health reasons. *Porto* will take their place. Frank Alcorace will need to make changes on the poster plan.

The Parks Commission has issued the Arts Commission a permit to allow vendors on the green during concerts. The Arts Commission will supply the permits to non-profit organizations. Ty Smith reported that the Parks Dept. suggested that any other vendors will be referred to the Parks Department.

Most of the contracted bands have agreed to Thursday rain dates; some will be on the NHS patio. Non-rain dates include 7/3/07, 7/10/07, and 7/31/07.

Nancy Wilcox reported that based on preliminary cost estimates the \$300.00 appropriated for dinner for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Army Band will be sufficient. Suzanne Crean will need to confirm the rain location. Volunteers will be needed to pick up and set up food.

### Sirius Coyote

Ty Smith reported that the show was good and that there was a captive audience. He felt that 40 minutes was not long enough being that we paid for a show lasting twice as long. The event had to fit into the middle school periods (40 minutes) in two sessions which also limits attendance. Next year's performance will need to be set up well in advance if we are applying for grant money. The location and audience will need to be discussed.

### Vacancies

Commissioners are still needed.

### Senior Events

Good Time Harmony Club will perform on 6/26/07. Ty Smith will need to get a check to Margie Paul-Gaston.

Craig Malone reported that the former state troubadour has a conflict and is not available on the date planned. Tamasima is open to other dates. Lisa will check with Margie Paul-Gaston. The estimate for the performance will be about \$100.00.

### Puppet Show

The puppet show is scheduled for Andrew Avenue School on 5/9/07 at 1:00 with Margie Paul-Gaston who will pick up a check at town hall.

### Veterans Concert

The acts have been finalized. Nancy Wilcox will need a program list. Ty and Lisa will determine the order of the performances. Volunteers are needed for the night of the concert. Ty and Nancy will be present. Lisa, Craig, and Suzanne will be performing.

The colored poster design presented by Nancy Wilcox was approved with changes made to add featured performances. Nancy will send Lisa the jpeg format.

No new information on sound to date. The commission discussed the cost. Ty and Lisa will confirm. To date, \$280.00 is allocated for sound (may have to be increased), \$200.00 for custodial services at the high school, and \$50.00 for printing of the posters.

Ty Smith will send the article to the newspaper and Craig Malone will contact Voices. The concert is posted on cable television access.

#### Duck Race

The Community Choir and the Community Band are selling raffles tickets.

#### Photography Classes

Craig Malone reported that he has not received a response from his contacts. He will continue to pursue.

#### Scholarships

Entries are due to NHS Guidance this week. Lisa will contact the group as needed to review applications.

#### Photo Contest

The Photo Contest will begin in June and winners will be selected in September. The show will coordinate with an art show to be held at the Historical Society. Flyers are on the Board of Education Curriculum Committee agenda for May.

#### Poetry

The commission agreed to sponsor a poetry reading event with a tentative date of May 30, 2007. The date would most likely change if the event is successful to sometime in March due to many conflicts at this time of year. The Literary Club will seek volunteers to read their poems. Lisa D'Andrea will confirm the date with the Historical Society and/or Library for availability.

*Note: there is a concert scheduled at the high school on that date.*

Ty Smith will look into a microphone system. There was discussion about accepting donations to the scholarship fund for refreshments such as coffee, tea and cookies. Craig Malone made a motion to allocate monies not to exceed \$100.00 for refreshments. Aldona LaPorta seconded. The motion was passed.

The commission discussed the proposal and available funds. Craig Malone proposed to allocate \$300.00 to the Literary Club. The Commission requests that appropriate acknowledgement be printed in the magazine if possible before it goes to print this year. Ty Smith seconded. The motion was passed.

#### Harvest Moon

The commissioners need to think about the booth at Harvest Moon. Ty Smith and Nancy Wilcox will see about updating the video. A booth should be manned. New ideas are welcome.

## **New Business**

### Signage

Ty Smith proposed new sandwich board signs for a cost of \$80.00. Craig Malone seconded. The motion was passed.

The signs on the green will be updated now that the freezing weather has broken. Arts Commission related events will take priority. Town events come next. Other requests will be posted if space is available.

### Books for the Library

There was discussion about last year's donation of arts related books to the library and remaining budget category monies. Craig Malone proposed that \$300.00 be allocated to purchase books again this year. Ty Smith seconded. The motion was passed.

### Future Events

Balance as of 4/24/06 meeting including unlisted encumbered expenses is \$1399.11. This includes expenses for the Photo Contest which will be awarded in the next fiscal year. Discussion involved the possibility of appropriating the money into next year's budget. The encumbered expenses also include \$100 for a Community Choir ad, money for the colorguard clinic, poetry, expenses for the Veterans Concert, and money for sandwich board signs. Including expenses for library books and Literary Club reduces the balance to \$799.11. Money will need to be spent to keep the website running and supplies will need to be ordered. The commission agreed to keep the remaining funds of \$799.11 unallocated at this time as additional expenses may occur.

## **Round Table**

Nancy Wilcox expressed concern about the commission overextending their time and talents with the number of commissioners and the number of events planned. The calendar is full and additional support is needed since we all have many commitments.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 P.M. The next meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Wilcox  
Secretary