

Arts Commission Minutes
April 21, 2009

I. Call to Order

Meeting commenced at 7:38 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Attendance

Present:	Frank Alcorace	Suzanne Crean
	Lisa D'Andrea	Craig Malone
	Marianna Hanley	Charley Marengi
	Aldona LaPorta	
	Margie Paul-Gaston	
	Dave Santamauro	
	Ty Smith	
	Melissa Teator	
	Burgess Mindy Fragoso	

IV. Officer's Report

A. Secretary's Report

Minutes for the March meeting were read and approved, with a correction under the Summer Concerts section. It should read "Knights of Columbus", not "Elks".

B. Treasurer's Report

The account has a present balance of \$1,180.50.

V. Public Comment

Mindy thanked the commission for all their work. "It has been a pleasure being the burgess liaison to this commission, but with coming elections, this may be my last meeting." The commission thanked her for all her help and support.

VI. Old Business

A. Commission Vacancies

Charley Marengi has been approved by the Mayor to fill the remaining vacancy.

B. Veterans' Concert

Most of the acts are ready to go. Ty is waiting to hear definites from a few. Marianna will update the poster information.

C. Recital Series

Ty thanked Frank for designing the logo for the series. There have been few responses to the newspaper ads.. Dave suggested starting the series in the Fall, giving more performers time to respond and prepare. After much discussion, it was decided to hold the first one on Wednesday, May 13 at 7 p.m. The hope is that the initial one will elicit more response from area artists.

D. Poetry Reading

The next reading will be Thursday, April 30 at 7 p.m. at Rachel's Coffehouse. Dave will again do the sound system. Marianna will update those posters also. Melissa sent e-mails to those previous attendees that said they would be interested in another reading.

E. Scholarship

The applications are due back April 27, 2009. The selection must be done by May 14th. Please watch your e-mail, should there be multiple applicants we will need to hold a selection meeting.

F. Harvest Moon

We discussed the entertainment being planned for the weekend. *Riverboat Ramblers* are booked for Friday evening. (We will get the fee back from the state, because they are a

recognized band.) On Saturday, starting about 11 a.m., *Sparkles the Clown*, a DJ, and *Big Band Sounds of Dick Wailonis* (playing gratis as an audition for summer 2010) will play during the day. Ty is still looking to fill a time slot. He was approached by *The Youth Jazz Guild* of Bridgeport, who are seeking exposure and learning experiences for their students. Ty will contact them and suggest a break for us from their \$450 price. Dave made a motion – “*Motion to allocate \$850 for entertainment for the 2009 Harvest Moon Festival.*” Margie seconded. Motion passed.

Melissa and Marianna questioned how the Arts got involved, as this is not an Arts sponsored function. There was discussion as to how many local organizations are actually involved. We determined that the Festival is at least 50% local groups and the Arts had been approached to provide entertainment for all the festival-goers.

G. Mural Grant

Ty spoke with Nancy Haack about our unresolved budget issue, so that she would understand our undecided response to her request. There was much discussion as to the cost of materials and time compensation. Melissa suggested Nancy present receipts and the work be done before June. Marianna will view the work Nancy has done at Central Ave. so far, to get an idea of the quality and estimated cost. She will also contact Nancy directly and come back to the commission in May with recommendations.

H. Miscellaneous

Margie spoke with Kara Euvino about her request to have a food booth on the Green during the summer concerts. After discussion, it was decided that they could set up on St. Michael’s property, but not on the Green. They should not serve anything to conflict with present food vendors.

Margie also spoke with Harvey from the Senior Center. He thanked her for what the Arts has done and they are set with programs until the Fall.

I. Event Checklist

Tabled for a future meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Future Events/Ideas

We will again consider purchasing library books.

Mindy suggested using a permanent sign by the firehouse with Frank’s logo and listing the summer concerts, so that they are seen by more people more often.

Dave and Ty will look into getting a wired microphone, possibly \$100.

Discussion on holding another photo contest. We will “kick it off” on June 16th, the first summer concert, and run it through August. The commission’s “homework” is to come up with theme suggestions for the May meeting.

Marianna will need to purchase canvases for the June pARTicipate event.

Lisa suggested thinking about purchasing real tablecloths/skirts for the Harvest Moon booth and any future events.

Aldona asked if the commission would be advertising the summer concert schedule on the back cover of the Community Choir’s spring program booklet. The decision was to do it. Margie made a motion – “*Motion to allocate \$100 for an ad on the back cover of the Naugatuck Community Choir’s spring program booklet.*” Melissa seconded. Motion passed.

B. Summer Concert Letter to Police

A new letter needs to be sent to the Naugatuck Police Dept. informing them of the summer concert series and the allowed vendors on the Green. Lisa will contact Craig to draft and send the letter.

C. Veterans’ Concert

Mindy suggested accepting donations for the Food Bank or items for the troops overseas at the concert. Melissa will contact the American Legion to set up a liaison to notify us of the most needed items for the troops.

VIII. Roundtable

Margie will be away for the May and July meetings.

Melissa – The Band of Liberty, of which New England Winds was a part, will be putting on a performance at Naugatuck High School soon. Watch the papers.

Ty – The Arts newsletter system is in place and will be ready to go soon.

Lisa – Next meeting will be **Tuesday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m.**

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was called to a close at 9:05 p.m.