

**Arts Commission Minutes
February 20, 2009**

I. Call to Order

Meeting commenced at 7:41 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Attendance

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

IV. Officer's Report

A. Secretary's Report

Minutes for the January meeting were read and approved.

B. Treasurer's Report

The account has a balance of \$3,097.17. After our encumbered expenses, the balance to be spent by 6/30 is \$2012.20. We are waiting on the final town budget report to reflect our true balance.

V. Public Comment

Caesar Ruggieri spoke to the commission about 2 upcoming milestones. This year, Naugatuck will turn 165 and the Historical Society will turn 50! The Society would like to mark these occasions by having a "History Day" on the Green, in conjunction with the 1st concert of the Summer (Tuesday, June 16). The commissioners were all in favor of doing something together.

VI. Old Business

A. Commission Vacancies

There is one vacancy remaining on the commission.

B. Poetry Reading

Melissa reported that the reading was a success. There were different readers from the previous event and half the commission was on hand. Dave suggested a more structured "stage" and reader introduction. Melissa was able to get an e-mail list of those attending, so that they could be notified of the next reading. She will check with Anthony Sorge to possibly have another event in April/May, before school lets out.

C. Palace Theater

Margie has still not received any pictures or 'Thank you' from the school. She will contact the Maple Hill parent group representative.

D. New England Winds

The program is all set for Friday, March 6 at 7:30 at the Methodist Church. Lisa has still not received any publicity from the group to put around town. Ty will try and get something into the papers and on cable TV.

E. Veterans' Concert

Ty is putting together all the acts for the show. Suzanne heard from the director of the Bell Choir and passed along that number to Ty.

F. Recital Series

We discussed starting this event on a Tuesday or Wednesday evening at the end of March. Dave suggested Steve Oiler, a church organist from New Haven, who is an accomplished classical pianist. Lisa will work on getting the series started.

G. Event Checklist

This brainstorming session will be tabled for a future meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Future Events

Senior Event – Margie is looking for some new acts for the Seniors for the spring. Sue suggested she contact some of the local nursing homes and speak with their recreational directors to get names of entertainment that they use.

Art Auction – Dave suggested hosting an art auction, done by a professional company. There was discussion by those that have attended some. We would hold it as means to increase the scholarship fund. We may have to table it, because of today's economy, but Dave will begin researching the various companies that offer the service.

B. Color of Thunder

This event is a colorguard and percussion competition. It will be held indoors at NHS on Saturday, March 14. We have supported them before, and Sandy Lee is asking that we again sponsor 2 trophies. The trophies will be for "Best in Show", one for the colorguard and one for the percussion team. Melissa and Frank offered to remain until the end of the show to present them. Margie made a motion – "*Motion to spend up to \$100 for two "Best in Show" trophies for the Color of Thunder competition.*" Suzanne seconded. Motion passed.

C. ASCAP

Ty informed the commission that this is another music licensing organization to which we are required to pay a yearly fee of \$305 for all of the musical events put on for the town. It is not open to any discussion with them. BMI, to which we already paid a fee, represents the composers, while ASCAP represents broadcast music. After discussion, it was decided to ask for a \$500 budget increase next year, citing these two organization fees as a separate line item. Dave made a motion – "*Motion to pay ASCAP \$305 for music licensing fees for*

2009."

Melissa seconded. Motion passed, under duress by all members.

VIII. Roundtable

Margie – "St. Patrick's Day dinner at the Senior Center on March 5th at 1 p.m."

Melissa – "Methodist Church serves St. Patrick's Day 'take-out only' on March 17th."

Ty – Next meeting will be **Tuesday, March 17, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.**

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was called to a close at 8:45 p.m.