

**Arts Commission Minutes
January 20, 2009**

I. Call to Order

Meeting commenced at 8:06 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Attendance

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

IV. Officer's Report

A. Secretary's Report

Minutes for the November 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.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Old Business

A. Commission Vacancies

There is one vacancy remaining on the commission. Tonight, David Santamauro was welcomed as a new confirmed commissioner.

B. Poetry Reading

The next event will be Thursday, February 12 at 7 p.m. at Rachel's Coffeehouse. Ty needs help with setting up the speakers. Melissa needs help at 6:30 to set up snacks, etc. Sue made a motion – "*Motion to allocate \$75 for posters and snacks.*" Margie seconded. Motion passed. Marianna was asked to design the posters.

C. Palace Theater

Lisa received feedback from a teacher and student that the show was enjoyed by all. However, Margie has 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. Lisa has not received any posters or publicity from the group to put around town.

E. Summer Concerts

We discussed using the NHS patio or City Hill Middle School as the rain location. If custodians are already working, we will not need to pay them. Otherwise, it will cost us \$147 for the night. We chose City Hill, as the auditorium is a more inviting venue.

There are now enough funds in this year's budget to pay the Naugatuck Community Band to be the summer concert opener.

F. Veteran's Concert

Everything is coming together for the show. The Girl Scouts will be asked again to do the Pledge of Allegiance to open the program and hand out programs at the door.

G. Event Checklist

This brainstorming session will be tabled for a future meeting.

H. Photo Contest

This event was very successful. The winners were – 1st place: Tim Smith of Derby, 2nd place: Brandon Dumschott of Beacon Falls, 3rd place: Ken Hanks of Naugatuck. All of the submitted photos were displayed on the walls in the Town Hall lobby. There was a lot of interest in the photos and in a future contest.

I. Senior Event

Margie reported that the *Frank Porto Band* was enjoyed by the Seniors at their holiday dinner and she has received a ‘Thank you’ from Harvey, the director. The band also enjoys playing there and has contacted Margie about possibly being hired again.

VII. New Business

A. Future Events

Senior Event – Margie would like to pursue something for the Seniors for the Spring, if it was in our budget. The funds are there, so Marianna made a motion – “*Motion to have Margie explore some spring entertainment for the Seniors.*” Sue seconded. Motion passed.

Teen Theater – Frank spoke about the possibility of both Teen Theater and Boy Scouts losing the use of St. Michael’s Hall, due to heat and lighting costs. Being that the theater is Arts related, is there any way that the commission would be able to help out? After discussion, it was decided that our mission is not to help with utility costs.

Painted Art – Marianna attended an Arts Commission meeting in the Northwest corner of the state. She told of an event where local artists painted chairs with various scenes and subjects. These chairs were then auctioned off at a “Chairity” function, raising lots of money. She thought we could consider something like this for a future scholarship fundraiser.

B. Recital Series

Lisa and Ty have been discussing the idea of starting a “Recital Series”. The library has a room available for such activities. They believe that there is a lot of talent in Naugatuck that would like a place to showcase their stuff. They will attempt a date in February, with possibly one a month, depending on the response. Charley Marengi is checking with the library as to space availability, library hours, etc. Dave suggested the possibility of the recitals being held at the Senior Center, thus also being different entertainment for them.

VIII. Roundtable

Margie – “I will be away all February!”

Sue – “I will be away for one week in February!”

Marianna – “I’d like to be away!”

Lisa – “I will be with the Chamber Singers in Spain in February!”

Next meeting is moved to **Tuesday, February 24, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.**

IX. Adjournment

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