

Arts Commission Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2006

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

Attendance

Present:

Frank Alcorace

Suzanne Crean

Lisa D'Andrea

Aldona LaPorta

Margie Paul-Gaston

Ty Smith

Nancy Wilcox

Absent:

Mike Doran

Officer's Reports

Secretary's Report

Margie Paul-Gaston made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 16, 2006 meeting with the correction in spelling of Caesar Ruggeri's name. Suzanne Crean seconded. The motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report

Suzanne Crean made a motion to accept the treasurer's financial report. Margie Paul-Gaston seconded. The motion was passed.

Public Comment

Octagala

Ms. Bendokas stopped by to present a program for the chamber music concert she is proposing. A formal proposal is needed with a budget. Ty Smith will contact Ms. Bendokas to request a formal proposal.

Old Business

Veteran's Concert

The committee felt that the concert was well-attended. Comments have been positive. There is a need for more recognition of the Arts Commission sponsorship.

Custodial charges were billed for five hours at a total of \$171.00. Posted school hours are Monday-Friday until 10:00 PM. The concert was finished at approximately 10:15. The

Commission members cleaned up the auditorium and disassembled the sound equipment with the help of Charlie Marengi. Commission was billed for an extra custodian. Three custodians were apparently n duty. This was not explained in writing in the bill – needs to be contracted for budget purposes. The Commission was not charged in the past and no charges were listed on the approved facilities request. Charlie will explore this.

Ty Smith made a suggestion to begin the concert earlier next year.

Oil Drum Art

Nancy Wilcox spoke with the Art Department Head at Naugatuck high School, Pat Robinson. She is not opposed to the idea if the Commission does the set-up work. We would need to make a presentation to the Board of Education Curriculum Committee and get approval. Storage will be a concern because some elementary schools do not have an art room. We would also need to present the project to the principals and arrange for storage space.

Jack Lardis called. He still does not know who painted the drums for Naugatuck's Earth Day. No new news here either.

Margie Paul-Gaston spoke with Dr. Cronin. He suggested waiting for the new superintendent. She will follow up in July.

Halloween Cemetery Tour

The tour work is in progress. Suzanne Crean is panning to meet with the historical Society this month.

Summer Concerts

Grant request to the Commission of Culture and Tourism was approved to fund a portion of three bands this summer for \$859.00.

Suggestion was made to write letters to the Governor and Representatives with input from commission members. Ty Smith will get out the criteria. The Governor and Representatives will be invited to the concert series. Suzanne Crean, Margie Paul-Gaston and Nancy Wilcox will write letters within the next 20-30 days.

Concert responsibilities were reviewed. The person on charge will need to pick up the check from Dody in the basement by 4:00 PM the day of the concert, turn on the lights, etc. (list is coming). The rain call must be made by 4:00 PM the day of the concert. The person in charge will need to call the band, the Community Choir, the Knights of Columbus, WATR, the Senior Center, the Food Bank, and beacon Valley. The sandwich board sign will be picked up from the Green and put on the gazebo. Ty will keep the sign.

Nancy Wilcox was trained to change the signs on the Green. Ty will fix the current sign that reads May instead of June for the start if the concert series.

New Business

Photo Contest

A photo contest was proposed by Lisa D'Andrea and Ty Smith for October or November. It is too late in the school year to get approval now if we want students to participate. Ideas for a theme include "My Summer Vacation" and "Our Town". "Our Town" could coincide with the presentation of the Teen Theater production in the fall. Local photographers and/or politicians will be asked to judge.

A motion was made by Margie Paul-Gaston to purchase \$75, \$50, and \$25 gift certificate awards for the contest plus ribbons/supplies to spend the remainder of the budget at \$150.00. Nancy Wilcox seconded. The motion was carried.

Chalk Walk

The Chalk Walk will be August 5th in conjunction with the Car Show in the morning. This worked out well last year. Lisa D'Andrea will coordinate with the Mayor's Office. Lisa D'Andrea made a motion was made to spend \$24.00 on chalk. Nancy Wilcox seconded. The motion was carried.

Waterbury Arts Collaborative

Lisa D'Andrea received a request for member participation with a representative from the commission participating. Lisa requested more information since the request made for a representative was vague.

Library Grant

The check for the books purchased by the library on behalf of the Arts Commission will be presented by Margie Paul-Gaston and Ty Smith. A photo will be taken and submitted to the newspaper for public relations.

Roundtable

We, as a commission, are willing to promote projects and opportunities within the public schools in order to promote the arts within our community as expressed in the mission statement. It is our hope that the Board of Education and the schools will embrace this opportunity. All members agreed.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on July 18, 2006 during the Celtic Concert.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Wilcox
Secretary