

Arts Commission Minutes
March 24, 2009

I. Call to Order

Meeting commenced at 7:38 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Attendance

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

IV. Officer's Report

A. Secretary's Report

Minutes for the February meeting were read and approved.

B. Treasurer's Report

There is a discrepancy between our records and the town budget balances. We are waiting for the current town report to resolve these issues. The scholarship account has a balance of \$1612.28.

V. Public Comment

Nancy Haack presented a proposal to the commission for a grant to paint the kindergarten room at Central Ave. She is a local artist who has been working on livening up the classrooms at Central Ave. for the past 5 years. She has done all but one classroom. At the completion of her work she conducts a class project so the students contribute to the final product. She is requesting \$500 to be used for materials and compensation for her time.

Mindy Fragoso spoke about wanting to report more Arts Commission information at the town Burgess meetings. She thanked the sender of a "thank you" note that she received after being seen on cable access speaking about the Arts Commission.

Jack Thigpen commented that he would like to see more diversity at the Summer Concerts. He has an R & B band, "The Truth", that he is interested in bringing in for a show. He thinks many people would enjoy the music if given the opportunity to showcase the band. He spoke to Ty and gave him a cd. Ty said we may have a spot somewhere we could use him but the Summer Series is booked already. He also asked how you become a member

of the Arts Commission and was told to contact the Mayor about being appointed.

VI. Old Business

A. Commission Vacancies

There is one vacancy remaining on the commission.

B. New England Winds

The New England Winds performed at the Methodist Church on Friday March 6. It was a great show. There were about 60 people who came to listen. We would like to get another group from the Band of Liberty to come to town in the future.

C. Veteran's Concert

Ty has many acts booked for the show. The Bell Choir is coming, the NHS percussion ensemble has agreed to play. Also the Lincoln impersonator and Bob Sagendorf says he will still MC the show. Melissa will contact JROTC at the high school to see if they will present the Colors. Marianna will make the posters.

D. Recital Series

The series will begin April 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Anyone interested in participating is asked to send a program and a short bio in. Everyone will be allowed to participate, regardless of ability, as long as the material being performed is not offensive. Each participant will be limited to 15 minutes. The order of appearance will be determined based on response from the public. A press release has gone to the Waterbury and Naugatuck papers. Dave is making a stage to use in the library.

E. Color of Thunder

It was a large show with many winter guards and percussion ensembles participating. The trophies were given to the Best of Show. Melissa presented the guard award to Alter Ego and Frank presented the percussion award to Trumbull High School..

F. Event Checklist

Tabled for a future meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Future Events

Marianna is planning on holding another pARTicipate June 20 on the Green. Suzanne made a motion - "*Motion to allocate \$25 for posters for pARTicipate.*" Frank seconded. Motion passed.

B. Mural grant

Discussion occurred about the proposal from Nancy Haack. Most felt it is a good project but at this time we are unable to allocate \$500 for the grant. We will ask Nancy to resubmit the proposal after next year's budget is set.

C. Poetry Reading

Melissa is planning on having the next poetry reading April 30 at 7:00 p.m. at Rachel's. Dave will get us a wired microphone to avoid interference from cell phones etc. We will allow music if it is original work.

D. Scholarships

The applications have been placed in the Guidance office at the high school. Discussion was held as to how many scholarships should be awarded and what amount each should be. The decision was made to wait and see how many qualified applicants we have and then decide how many scholarships to award.

E. 4th of July

We are not involved with the 4th of July this year.

F. Harvest Moon

Ty has contracted the River Boat Ramblers to play at the Harvest Moon Festival. He had an offer from a 16 piece Big Band to play the festival for free if we would consider using them for the 2010 Summer concerts. A suggestion was made that if the Recital Series is successful perhaps some of the participants would want to perform at Harvest Moon. We would need the sound system from the Community Band in order to do that. No decision was made.

G. Summer Concerts

Margie was approached by Kara Euvino about doing a food booth on the Green during the summer concerts as a fundraiser for St Michaels. Discussion was held about who is able to have a booth on the Green. This year it is the Elks and Community Choir. In the future if another organization is interested we will consider it. They would need to be prepared to do every week for that summer.

VIII. Roundtable

Lisa – Next meeting will be **Tuesday April 21 at 7:30 p.m.**

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was called to a close at 10:01 p.m.