

Arts Commission Minutes
May 16, 2006

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 P.M.

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

The minutes of the April 18th meeting were presented. Motion was made to accept the minutes by Margie Paul-Gaston and seconded by Aldona LaPorta. The motion was carried.

The minutes of the Emergency meeting will be forthcoming.

Treasurer's Report

A current expense report was presented by Lisa D'Andrea. Encumbered expenses form 1005-1005 budget came to \$708.94. Current encumbered expenses total \$1888.98. The balance is \$1513.42. The balance to spend by June 30th is \$335.42, including encumbered expenses carried over from last year. A motion was made to accept the report by Suzanne Crean and seconded by Ty Smith. The motion was carried.

Public Comment

Mr. Caesar Ruggerio presented a contract for Vinni Carr for the Naugatuck AARP, which was approved at the last meeting. Nancy Wilcox will present the Arts Commission Awards at Honors Night next Thursday (6:00 P/M/) with Mr. Ruggerio. Lisa D'Andrea will arrange for a short script and checks.

Mr. Jack Lardis presented information on Oil Drum Art, Inc.

- Apparently two oil drums were displayed at Earth Day (during the Duck Race) not sponsored by the Arts Commission

- Waterbury Schools (middle and high school levels) are painting trash cans and they will be displayed at a student art show in conjunction with the Artistic Arts Gallery
- The focus of Oil Can Art is educational and recommended approval by the superintendent of schools, the arts director, and town officials (i.e. Mayor, Parks Dept.) is recommended
 - Naugatuck High School Athletic Field, town parks, playgrounds, Little League fields, schools (we have ten schools in Naugatuck) were discussed as possible permanent display sites
 - Trash cans could be themed or curriculum-based
- Used drums are recycled, safe and non-toxic
 - Drums are prepped: sanded and painted with two coats of primer for \$20.00 per drum
 - Paint kits are approximately \$10.00 per kit (for one drum); acrylic paint
 - Two coats of varnish will be applied by the company
 - No minimum number of cans; number to be decided by sponsoring agency
- The Commission will investigate further as a possible idea for the 2006-2007 school year
 - Funding would be provided through the Commission, grants, and/or fundraisers
 - Naugatuck Savings Bank is sponsoring the Waterbury event
 - Nancy Wilcox and Margie Paul-Gaston will share the idea with the Arts Department Chairs, then seek approval by Board of Education Officials and the Mayor
 - Jack Lardis will make a presentation to the Superintendent of Schools, the Mayor, and the Arts Department Chair upon request
 - Jack Lardis will also make a presentation to the Arts teachers upon request

Ms. Thirzah VenDokas presented the idea of an instrumental chamber music concert to be held on August 8, 2006.

- The concert was hiked last year and supported by the Arts Commission
- There will be approximately ten musicians playing chamber music in the reading room
- Thirzah VenDokas reported that there were approximately 100 people in a packed room; Ty Smith, who was present, remembered lower attendance
- Joan at the library is in support; Friends of the Library may provide some support
- Ms. Ven Dokas is requesting financial support; the total cost of the performance will run between \$2000.00 - \$3500.00
- The item will be added to the agenda for the next meeting in which the new fiscal year will begin

Old Business

Scholarship Committee

Recipients have been determined at the last meeting. The plaque has been retrieved and Lisa D'Andrea will get the names. Names are not posted after 2003.

Veteran's Concert – May 26th

Jim Manger will donate his time and DJ services. Sound equipment is in place. Volunteers will be Nancy Wilcox and Margie Paul-Gaston. Other Commission members will be participating. Frank Alcorace reported that the Naugatuck High School ROTC will provide a color guard and ushers. There will be a dress rehearsal on May 22, 2006.

Summer Concert Series

All performers are booked; all contracts are signed including the last two contracts which are in.

The Knights of Columbus will be doing a Concessions both again this year. Concessions opportunities are now closed.

The person in charge will be responsible for making the rain date decision by 4:00 P.M. the day of the concert. The rain date is the following Thursday. If it rains on the rain date then the show will go on or be cancelled altogether. The Commission is still responsible for any bills incurred. Bucket nights will be July 11, July 25, and August 8th. The buckets have been retrieved as well as the magnets. Pens have been purchased.

The Kerry Boys will edit or alter their musical selection in order to accommodate requests made by the public.

Halloween Cemetery Tour

Suzanne Crean reported that she discussed the idea with the Historical Society and they are excited about putting on a tour together. We may need transportation with reservations and a fee for the bus. Possible involvement with Readers Theater and local thespians was discussed. Suzanne Crean will continue to arrange plans.

New Business

New Ideas

Ideas and needs including business cards, equipment, and books for the library were discussed. A motion was made by Suzanne Crean to use the remainder of the \$300 to purchase business cards and books for the library. Margie Paul-Gaston seconded. The motion was passed. Frank Alcorace will design a business card (generic) and give it to Lisa D'Andrea who will arrange for printing. Ty Smith will go to the library and follow-up on the purchase of books related to the arts: Mozart, music, arts, and/or artists.

Roundtable

Ty Smith expressed his thanks and encouragement by the group's new ideas and willingness to work together. The meeting room site was discussed. The noise from the side machine made it difficult to hear and the room was crowded.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 P.M.

The next meeting will be held on June 20, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Wilcox, Secretary