

**Arts Commission Minutes  
November 18, 2008**

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting commenced at 7:45 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Attendance**

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

**IV. Officer's Report**

**A. Secretary's Report**

Minutes for the October meeting were read and approved.

**B. Treasurer's Report**

The account has a balance of \$2889.85. After our encumbered expenses, the balance to be spent by 6/30 is \$414.85.

**V. Public Comment**

None

**VI. Old Business**

**A. Commission Vacancies**

There are two vacancies remaining on the commission. Tonight, David Santamauro is a guest and prospective commissioner.

**B. Senior Event**

Lisa informed Margie that the check request for the *Frank Porto Band* has been submitted.

**C. Photo Contest**

This has been the largest response. The judging will be after the meeting.

**D. Poetry Reading**

Melissa will talk to Anthony Sorge from NHS the first week of December. Rachel has received much positive feedback from the October reading at her Coffeehouse.

**E. PARTICIPATE**

Suzanne and Frank reported that the weather that day was windy and drizzly, although warm. Only a few people turned out for this event.

**F. School Event**

Margie was contacted after the Arts October meeting by the Maple Hill parent group about an event coming to the Waterbury Palace Theater. They wished to take the entire student body and had already acquired most of the funding. Through e-mails, Margie submitted the proposal and the commission voted in favor. Ty made the formal motion – "*Motion to spend \$700 for the Maple Hill Palace Theater event.*" Margie seconded. Motion passed.

**G. New England Winds**

Melissa was able to secure Friday, March 6 with the Methodist Church for a performance. It is their "Coffee House" night, so there will be refreshments. The program will start at 7:30. We will start advertising in February.

**H. Waterbury Youth Symphony**

Ty has not received any more information.

**I. Summer Concerts**

Ty is done booking the bands for the summer and is confident it is a good line-up. The problem of a rain date location needs to be resolved. We discussed several options and will try to obtain the NHS patio. It seems to be the best location, ample parking, etc. Melissa has spoken with the custodial staff and we may be able to have use of the auditorium if very inclement weather happens. Ty will look into it further.

- 4<sup>th</sup> of July – There was discussion on our annually hiring a band for the event, while the town also annually hires a DJ. Since most bands have gone up in price and, with other activities at the event there is a lot of “down time”, it was decided to forego hiring a band for 2009.

**J. Veterans’ Concert**

NHS has been secured at no cost. Ty will speak to Charley Marengi about using the Community Band’s sound system. Suzanne will tell the Pinecrest Church bell ringers that they are on the program. If there is no cost for the janitors and the sound system will work, that will bring our working cost down \$450!

**K. Event Checklist**

This brainstorming session will be tabled until January.

**VII. New Business**

**A. Future Events**

All future events need to be very low or “no cost” events. We may do a Spring photo contest, because we have prizes left over.

**B. BMI**

Ty informed the commission that we need to pay the licensing fees for this past summer’s music performances. There is a \$15 fee per performance, BUT a minimum charge of \$150! So, even though some of the bands we hire already have a license, we still have to pay the minimum. After much discussion, Melissa made a motion – *“Motion to pay BMI \$150 for music licensing fees for 2008.”* Suzanne seconded. Motion carried under duress by all members. We will add this expense to next year’s budget as a separate line item.

**VIII. Roundtable**

Suzanne spoke to the director of Teen Theater about any joint future events.

Margie – Good meeting!

Ty – Meeting in December? After discussion, it was decided to wait until January. Just watch e-mails for any news about a January poetry reading.

Lisa – Next meeting will be **Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.**

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was called to a close at 8:25 p.m.