

**Arts Commission Minutes
October 19, 2010**

I. Call to Order

Meeting commenced at 8:10 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Attendance

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

IV. Officer's Report

A. Secretary's Report

Minutes for the September meeting were read and approved.

B. Treasurer's Report

No report was prepared for this meeting.

\$300 was deducted from our budget by the town to pay BMI for music licensing. Ty spoke to Mayor Mezzo and Wayne McAllister, requesting that they pay BMI for a Town License out of the general fund, instead of our budget.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Old Business

A. Future Events/ Ideas

Lisa continued the discussion from last month's meeting as to what the Arts Commission should be. She went around the table and asked "What did you do for the Arts Commission this past month?" Discussion on: connecting with other groups in town to gain more meaning of each other's objectives; better Arts information in the Town Guide; having fewer, but more meaningful, events; making more use of the library for events; solving promotional problems.

Charley suggested we consider being a "grant approval committee", with our funds available for school youth programs, Senior programs, etc. It could be a possible new promotional avenue, as the organization would be requested to use our logo on their materials. He warned that approvals/ non-approvals could become tricky, however.

EDC money originally intended for the arts and music downtown is available.

Our job, as a commission, is to provide the community with different art opportunities. It is up to the people as to whether or not they participate. We did all agree that we need to change our operations. Each commissioner needs to be more active in helping with events and committees.

VII. New Business

A. Future Events/Ideas

Discussion on offering different types of art classes to both parents and children, getting both age groups involved. The classes could be held at the library, with a themed art show once-a-month. Charley will talk with some of the town's art teachers to see if they would be interested in putting teams of students together.

Discussion on broadening the Veterans' Concert. Marianna is putting a slide show together with pictures from veteran's associations, the historical society, and local people. While the show plays, someone could read wartime letters or a service band could play. Area veteran's organizations should be invited.

Discussion on a seasonal event approach - more focused events:

Winter: November - April: music recitals, poetry readings
Fire & Ice (town)

Spring: Veterans' Concert

Summer: Concerts on the Green

Camp pARTicipate (workshops/youth camps): band, circus, art
(Charley will put together some numbers and day offers)

"Open Mic" night on the Green

Fall: Arts Festival with a Chalkwalk and Battle of the Bands
(\$5 vendor fee will go the scholarship fund)

To commit to events, we need to be sure to have prices in order.

Suggestion of putting "out to bid" for the vendors at the summer concerts - possible donation of 10% of summer profits to the scholarship fund.

B. Miscellaneous

Ty has resigned from the Arts Commission. He has had enough years of fighting with ASCAP, BMI, and the town's low/non-participation and help. He will be missed!

There are only 3 participants for the November 2nd recital. If there are no more by Friday, 10/22, this recital will be canceled and the next one will be in December.

A Commission on Culture is being formed in town.

There is a new online paper, naugatuck patch.com. We will try using this to promote our activities.

VIII. Roundtable

Lisa – Next meeting will be **Tuesday, November 16 at 7:30 p.m.**

IX. Adjournment

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