

Middletown Commission on the Arts

Minutes, January 25, 2012

Present

Franca Biales
Cassandra Day (vice-chair)
Richard Kamins
Joyce Kirkpatrick
Charlotte McCoid
David Davis (7:10)
Jenny Hawkins Lecce (Sec.)
Lee Godburn (Chair)
Lauren Hodge (student rep)
Bob Santangelo (Council)
Linda Salafia (Council)
Lea Tomaszewski
Maria Malafronte (student rep)
Barbara Arafah

Also Present

Stephan Allison, staff

Absent

Fran Ganguli
Chelsea Rak (student rep)

Call to order

Commission Chair Godburn called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. at the Municipal Building, room 208, Middletown, CT.

Public session: Andy Raymond brought in a large 40" x 60" hand knit American flag that his wife crafted during the evenings that Andy worked at the Main Street fire station.

Minutes from December 14, 2011

Corrections: name of month in Header and in acceptance of Minutes changed from November to December and from October to November respectively. Motion by Bob Santangelo to accept minutes with changes, Joyce Kirkpatrick seconds. Approved.

Remarks from the Chair

Commission Chair Godburn welcomes Linda Salafia, our new Council representative. Lee also noted that the first Midnight on Main was, by all reports, a great success.

Old Business

Budget Report – no report this month.

Program Update

- a) Arts Stakeholders Group: the group has been growing its membership.
- b) Arts & Creative Industries Council, Creative Juice (Chamber of Commerce): Met in January on the subject of advocacy. The next meeting is in the day on Feb. 9th, Chamber of Commerce meeting room. It begins with networking at 11:30 and the meeting begins at noon.
- c) Website- Arts2Go.org: A decision was made to reconfigure the site into a different program to resolve the issue of Saturdays not showing up in the previous program. A relaunch is coming soon.

Ethics Code- Gift Limits, no news.

Subcommittee Assignments- Commissioners have finished signing up, including a few signing up during the meeting.

MCA 40th: Work on this will commence soon.

Committee Reports

Public Art Committee

- i) Catalogue of Public Art Collection: ongoing.
- ii) MCAAAA 2012: will be reviewed in spring.
- iii) Display Area Dedication:

Planning & Projects Committee:

- i) Arts Walk:
- ii) Arts Advocacy Award: (4/16 -17/2012) Cassandra and Lee (and opened it to all Arts Commissioners) meeting to further a new program wherein they will find a way to ask community members to put forth their own nominations.

Nominating Committee: Review of Bylaws: ongoing.

Other: (Publicity Committee, Kids Arts Committee, Archive Committee): Kids Arts will not be a part of the Parks and Rec brochure this year, but we will distribute through the schools and will have an ad in the Parks and Rec brochure alerting people to this change this year.

New Business

"Our Town" NEA Grant Opportunity: This federally funded grant includes sizable dollar amount two-year granting periods intended to enhance creative placemaking in our towns. A first introductory meeting has already taken place, and the next meeting is set for Wed. Feb 1st, noon, at Russell Library in the Hubbard Room. Multiple arts and community groups will be working together to craft a proposal by the March 1st 2012 deadline.

"City Canvases" DECD-COA Grant Opportunity: Councilman Santangelo along with Stephan Allison attended the state meeting at the Governor's mansion as Middletown representatives. This is an economic stimulus grant that involves arts in a way to refresh and enhance a city's downtown (creative placemaking). The deadline for the letter of intent to apply for the grant, which is a one to one matching grant in the amount of \$100,000 each, is January 31st by 4 p.m. delivered and the grant application, if chosen, is due on February 24th.

MCA Budget 2012-2013: Stephan reported that he met with the mayor regarding the 2012-2013 budget. The commissioners reviewed the worksheet and approved its proposed numbers.

Grants Panels- all categories: Next grant period is March 15. For the January grant applications, Categories II and III, the panelists are: Joyce Kirkpatrick, Richard Kamins, and Charlotte McCoid, with Franca as alternate. The grant panel will tentatively meet on Feb. 15 at 6:30 – 8:30 in the Arts Office. The Category I grant date will be set via online calendar choices set up by the Coordinator.

Miscellaneous

Revised Meeting Schedule 2012 accepted.

Other: Feb 12 Greater Middletown Concert Assoc. celebrating Middletown musicians in a concert at the Middletown Performing Arts Center

Adjournment

Richard Kamins moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Jenny Lecce and the Commission will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on February 22, 2012.

Respectfully submitted
Jenny Hawkins Lecce