

Middletown Commission on the Arts

Minutes, May 28, 2014

Present

Cassandra Day (chair)
Jenny Hawkins Lecce(v.chair)
Franca Biales (sec.)
Joyce Kirkpatrick
Charlotte McCoid
Fran Ganguli
Sara MacSorley
Sebastian Giuliano

Also Present

Stephan Allison, Staff

Absent

Robert Santangelo
Richard Kamins
Lance Timmons(student rep)
Barbara Arafah
Lee Godburn

Call to order

Commission Chair Day called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. in Municipal Building Room B19

Public session: no public was present

Minutes from April 23, 2014

- Motion to approve by Hawkins Lecce, seconded by Kirkpatrick. Discussion: none. Carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda as written by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Hawkins Lecce. Carried unanimously.

Remarks from the Chair- The sun always shines on Middlesex County.

Old Business:

a) Budget Report

Music license funds completely spent.

Grants funds spent.

Administration funds 80% spent.

Public Arts will be spent by end of year.

Kids Arts 90% spent.

Special funds-\$6000 will be spent on Fourth of July celebration (on July 3rd). Prelude will be headliner, MHS Jazz Band, Middletown Symphonic Band will play at Harbor Park.

b) Program Update

- Arts Stakeholders Group – met at the Canoe Club with Dan Cronin.
Next meeting will be June 18, 2014, Hubbard Room, 5:00 pm, potluck.

c) Other- Kids Arts 50% enrolled. Expect it to be filled soon.

Oddfellows is under new management.

Lee T. McQuillan sent thank you note to MCA for grant for the *Suite of Birds*.

Clare Rogan sent thank you note to MCA for grant for The Big Draw: Middletown

Ben Michael sent letter to alert the MCA about a change in Headline act, for the 75th Anniversary Doo Wop concert on July 12th.

Kirkpatrick made a motion to accept the change, seconded by Hawkins Lecce. Passed unanimously

Committee Reports:

a) **Public Art Committee**

i) **Public Art Policy for Acquisitions**

Met on May 21. Discussed city art collection Policy. Looking to expand it to include all city public art. Need a firm protocol. Discussed need for an ordinance to create a path for public art acquisition. Art commission should be the body that decides the look for the city. Visual art that becomes part of permanent cityscape should go through Public Art Committee. Allison will seek information from Americans for the Arts on how best to proceed with such a plan. Discussion. Considering art of Armida Espaillat and Gil Scullion.

Working on acquisition of art by Gil Scullion . Kirkpatrick made a motion that the commission approve the purchase of one art piece from Gil Scullion’s agricultural series up to the amount of \$600. Seconded by McCoid. Passed unanimously.

Follow up on art at the new senior center-need to talk with Joe Samolis.

MCAAAA award- Joe Hartman

The Risley bench in City Hall needs welding. Looking for an art welder to fix it.

b) **Executive Committee-** ongoing

c) **Planning and Projects Committee-** ongoing

d) **Nominating Committee**

i. Review of Bylaws – ongoing

ii. Nomination suggestions-ongoing

New Business:

a) Endowment Research Committee-ongoing

b) Forming/assigning Commission Committees- Cassandra will ask for volunteers for open slots on sub-committees.

c) Other- none

Miscellaneous:

a) Grant reports-sent electronically

b) Announcements

Green Street Open House, June 14, 2014 with concert and art sale.

Paintings of Michelle Podgorski at Green Street Arts Center, June 5-June 24. Reception June 5, 5-8pm. On June 6, at 12:15 there will be a lunchtime talk with the artist.

Chorale Gala, June 22, 4-8 pm at the Wadsworth Mansion to support the documentary. Marco Gaylord will be honored for all he has done for the arts.

The Middletown Art Guild invites commissioners to Zilkha Gallery, June 7, 7-9 pm

Madama Butterfly was presented at MHS Performance Center. Well attended.

Adjournment:

Kirkpatrick made a motion to adjourn at 8:52 p.m., seconded by Giuliano. The MCA will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, room 208 Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Franca Biales