Somers Cultural Commission Meeting Minutes
Piedmont Hall October 5, 2026 7:00 p.m.

Present: Pat Bachetti, Sebastian Rider-Bezzera, Neil Oconnell, Dan Fraro, John Kelleher, Ann Levesque, Christine Neserella (chairperson), Gail Tishler, Terri Titus
Absent: Yvonne Besse, Eileen Fedorowich, Giselle Genece, Lynne Goss, Dave Marti, Terri Schmidt
Guests: Ann Fraro, Holly Bonasera (Economic Development Committee)
Members pledged and saluted our flag. Chris opened the meeting at 7:02.
Secretary's Report: There was no discussion, corrections or additions. Seb motioned to accept as presented and Gail seconded. Approved.
Correspondence: Pat stated that Gail and she completed and mailed the thank you notes to our Summer Concert Series sponsors. Also thanked all the sitters for their time during our recent Art Show. Very appreciated.
Treasurer's Report: Terri was absent but Chris presented the Art Show Expense/Revenue report. There were no questions or discussion. She also presented the 2027 Budget vs. Actual Expense/Revenue. Pretty explanatory. Terri will answer questions or discussion at the next meeting if needed.
Open Discussion: Our guest from the EDC thanked everyone for having her and explained one of the things the EDC is trying to do is attend other town meetings and get a feel of the community and possible needs and to get acquainted.
Chris presented the meeting dates calendar for 2027. After checking one date Seb motioned to accept the calendar and Pat seconded. Approved.
Halloween is coming. Chris showed everyone the trophies for 1st and 2nd place for house/business winners. Also had 8 1/2x11 flyers for folks to take and place around town. Signs have been made for different sites in town. John will place these. Question on cookies for reception-wrapped? Chris will get clarity on this concern and decision to have or not. Decoration committee will decorate on October 22 and 23, 9:00 a.m. Pictures will be taken of all entries and displayed on the walls to view at reception. Judging of entries will be the week before both Sunday and Monday nights. Event held on October 24 at 5:30 with awards and reception. Pat suggested lights to line the sidewalk entering Piedmont. Chris will check on solar lights.
Seb reported on the music committee. Eileen, Lynne and Seb met and would like to add some new artists next year to concert series. There are 8 concerts

scheduled and would like to present some groups to change it up a little. Children's concert was discussed and thought better if for a Saturday morning. A children's concert might be secured for $300. Budget is set and need to try and stay within it. Perhaps open it up to more sponsors for special concerts? Need to schedule bands soon for availability.
The painting of the doors and benches will be done in the spring as the weather is getting too cool.
The Thanksgiving paper and pet food drive will run November 1st-22nd. Drop off will be at Champs Place and Piedmont Hall. Extra paper goods will be stored in Piedmont's basement and the pet food at Somers Veterinary Hospital. TU Seb.
The Sponsor Campaign will begin in January. One-on-one, face-to-face visits more successful. Divide sponsors among members?
The KC Sisters contract has been mailed. Ann brought a poster for possible display.
The Wi Fi in Piedmont on hold. There is wiring in building, just needs to be turned on. Check with Brian on delay.
Women's History Month was discussed and having Bec York as speaker. The library will host on November 30th at 6:00 p.m. Seb motioned to hire her for the $300 and Terri T seconded. Approved.
Neil spoke on the success of the Art Show with over 200 visitors this year. 106 at the reception, 94 paintings displayed by 59 artists. Suggestion of name tags for artists at reception next year.
Chris suggested getting an "A frame" (sandwich board) sign for out front to display monthly meeting date open to guests.
The January event was briefly discussed. A children's program for elementary school age group. Possibly inviting entertainer "Mr. Lobster" on a Saturday 1-3.
Looking for a speaker for Black History Month. Seb said possibly one of the professors from UCONN would be willing to do a program for the $300. Further discussion going forward.
Seb motioned to adjourn, Pat seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:50.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Bachetti, secretary
Minutes not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.

Next meeting will be held November 9, 7:00 p.m.

Happy Haunting everyone!!!