

Somers Cultural Commission Minutes

September 12, 2011

Present: Linda Abbott, Nancy Barbosa, Neil Connell, Bob Hall, Rich Mazur John Reeves, Judy Reeves, Kathy Worcester

Secretary's Report: The minutes were accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer was not in attendance and no report was submitted.

Correspondence: No new correspondence was received.

Commission Members: Chris Anthony has resigned from the commission. Several names of potential members were submitted for consideration. Linda will follow up to see if they are interested, then submit names to the First Selectmen's Office.

Subcommittee Reports:

Summer Concerts

- The attendance was better than expected this year. Rich Mazur conducted a survey at the last concert to determine if the attendees would like the groups from this year back next year. Some of the groups received a few no votes, but overall the groups were very good. The Pioneer Valley Fiddlers were the best by vote.
- The donations we received this year exceeded the amount that we paid the performers. Donations given at the concerts exceeded previous years. Rich did an excellent job in soliciting donations.
- Rich recommended adding a concert in late June based on the popularity of the series. This will be discussed at the next concert.
- The Pioneer Valley Fiddlers donated 3 CD's that we can sell. Paper Reeds also donated paperweights and several Somers related hanging decorations that we will sell.

Piedmont Percolator

- We are now booked solid through January. A flyer was handed out that listed the following performers for the fall:
 - October 9 – Jim & Sandy Bailey and the Bailey Family; Dan Labich
 - November 13 – Robin O'Herin (Bottleneck Blues); Chuck Costa
 - December 11 – The Village Players
- Judy handed out a Press Release for discussion. A few changes were recommended. The updated Press Release will be sent to Bob Hall for posting on the internet. The press release will also be sent to the local papers.
- Discussed having signs made to advertize the programs. The members thought signs were a good idea.
- Judy distributed cards and flyers. Judy, Rich Mazur and Linda Abbott will handle distribution of cards and flyers to local businesses.

- John and Judy developed a list of items needed. Candles for the tables have been purchased. 2 or 3 floor lamps will be needed and several members volunteered to bring lamps. Members also volunteered to assist with refreshments. Bob Hall will provide lighting for the performers.
- Recommend advertizing first come, first served for seating.
- Nancy volunteered to ask Dunkin Donuts for a donation of donut holes.
- The commission will provide seed money to fund the events. A percolator for a donation container will be used. Need to make a donation sign.

Holiday Tea

- The Holiday Tea will not be held this year so we can concentrate on the Piedmont Percolator.

Art Show

- Neil handed out cards with the date of the art show. The sign out front has been updated.
- The Reception will be on September 25th. Neil requested Volunteers for the reception and sitters for other days of the show. The members volunteered time for each of the dates.
- Refreshments will be available on the 25th. Neil asked for donations of food. Several members volunteered to bring items for the reception.
- A CD player is available for music. Need to encourage attendees to sign the guest book.

Old Business

Art Display in Town Hall

- The Art Display at the town hall has been slow over the summer. We will accept art from non-Somers residents this fall.

Piedmont Projects: Linda met with Bob Pettee, Pettee Electric. He said it would be expensive to install the light due to the difficulty in running the wire needed. The members agree to have the work done because it was a safety issue and we will be using the building more for events.

New Business

2011 - 2012 Budget: We need to consider developing a budget for 2011 – 2012. Please start thinking about items and costs

Board Members List: The board members list will be updated to include cell phone numbers. Linda requested that the members email her their cell phone number

Next meeting: **October 17, 2011 @ 7 pm.** (Moved to the 3rd Monday due to Columbus Day)

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hall