

Somers Cultural Commission
Minutes of January 11, 2016 Meeting

Meeting called to order 7:00PM

Present: , J. Reed, J. Batchelor, K. Worcester, P. Bachetti, G. Lockwood, D. Whalen, S. Grabierz,
Our two newest members to the Commission were introduced Dawn Whalen, Pat Bachetti. Everyone is very pleased to have them on the Commission.

Guests: K. Hutton, J. Hutton, Neil Connell, Bob Hall

Secretary's Report: Reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report:

- a) Financial Accounts reports ó review and accepted
- b) Bills ó any bills submitted to the commission will be reviewed by members at the monthly meeting before submission to the Finance Dept for reimbursement. Bills were reviewed and approved for payment.
- c) Purchase of chairs ó Commission members are in agreement that the chairs currently used for the coffeehouse need to be replaced. S. Grabierz will pursue options at Costco and secure price. She will contact Parks Dept to confirm a request to purchase the chairs would be coordinated through them. The Commission approved the purchase of 60 chairs.

Correspondence: a donation to the Summer Concert series was received from John and Joan Sizer.

Old Business .

Piedmont Coffeehouse:

- a) The Dec and Jan events were a big success. Approximately 60 people attended each event. Special thanks to A. Levesque & G. Lockwood for all the Holiday decorations. The hall really set the mood for the events.
- b) Geissler's graciously donated pastry for the Dec and Jan performances. J. Reed will contact Corporate office to secure approval for their support with the remaining coffeehouse events.
- c) John and Heidi Cerrigione will be the replacement artists for the April 10 coffeehouse.

Photography Show:

J. Batchelor will coordinate a follow-up meeting to finalize details of the show. B. Hall has updated the flyer/application. It will be reviewed at the subcommittee meeting to ensure no additional changes are needed. It will then be forwarded to DG graphics for printing and mailing.

Summer Concert: Selection of artists is moving forward. Waiting for decision on use of an alternate site for performances should we encounter bad weather. J. Reed is working with the Schools Business

Manager, Bill Boutwell. on a possible alternate location. S. Grabierz detailed some of the benefits to using a location such as the Elementary School.

Publicity Review: G. Lockwood met with K. Hutton to begin transition of publicity responsibilities. G. Lockwood will handle all publicity effective immediately including the Face book page. Due to the complexity of managing the Web Page J. Hutton has agreed to continue until G. Lockwood can secure additional training.

New Business:

Connecticut River Valley Artists Show: Neil Connell provided a brief overview of the show which will be held at Piedmont Hall June 5 ó June 19.

2016 Scholarship: B. Hall reviewed details of the program, including qualification and instructions for applying. Once submissions are closed (April 8) J. Reed will work with B. Hall to coordinate a date/time to evaluate applications received and art work. N. Connell, K. Worcester, J. Reed along with B. Hall will review the submissions and chose the artist who will receive the Scholarship.

Art Show: N. Connell would like to start the process for the Art Show in March. G. Lockwood, P. Jones, P. Bachetti and J. Reed will be assisting with this event. B. Hall will forward to N. Connell a copy of the mailing list for review and updates.

Election of Officers:

Treasurer appointment ó At this time J. Reed will continue as Treasurer.

Other: D. Whalen has graciously offered to do the "Thank you" letters/notes for the Commission. This includes letters to our Fundraising contributors.

New Membership: At this time the Commission has two openings on the board. If anyone has any suggestions they should forward to J. Reed.

Adjournment: J. Batchelor moved that we adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by S. Grabierz. The meeting adjourned at 8:15PM .

Next Meeting: February 8, 2016 7:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Sandra Grabierz