

Somers Cultural Commission
Minutes of April 11, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM on April 11, 2016.

Present: , J. Reed, P. Jones, K. Worcester, D. Whalen, D. Fraro, A. Levesque, P. Bachetti, J. Batchelor, G.Lockwood, S. Grabierz,

Guests: A. Murphy, R. Hall

Secretary's Report: Reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report:

- a) Financial Accounts reports – J Reed provided an in depth review (with spreadsheets) of our financial history and where we are today. J. Reed did explain a misallocation from the General Fund which was corrected. She also explained a change being made to how our Town Funds are being deposited. J. Reed will be working with Sub-Committee chairs to develop a budget for each major event.
- b) Bills – None to be approved.

Correspondence: - None received.

Old Business.

Piedmont Coffeehouse:

- a) Chairs have been received and in place for the April Coffeehouse. Well received by guests. More floor space available for guests to walk around. Town Accountant is working with Costco to ensure tax on chairs is returned via 501 C designation
- b) Positive feedback on the season. Survey was handed out and A Levesque recapped what guests would suggest for improvements.
- c) Sub-Committee to finalize 2016-2017 season in the next two months. Also working to develop a plan to encourage more donations to help supplement the budget.

Photography Show:

Sitter schedule was passed around. J. Batchelor asked for volunteers to provide refreshments for the Reception on May 1st.

Art Show: First meeting held in March to review preparations for the Sept show. Members will be updating the existing documents and be available for review at the April Art Show meeting.

Summer Concert: Contract was signed with School for Custodial Support during the Summer Concerts should we need to use the Elementary School.

Bylaws – Revision:

By-Laws were handed out with noted revisions. Vote to accept the changes will be made at the May meeting.

Publicity Review: G. Lockwood explained plans to move forward with publicity via multiple media avenues. She is deferring updates on the web site, until someone with more experience can assist. R. Hall will contact school Guidance Counselor to see if there is a student with web experience who could assist.

New Business:

Fundraising:

- a) D. Whalen provided draft copies of documentation that can be used to approach potential sponsors. Members agreed to mail the introductory letter to potential sponsors before contacting them in person. Personalized letters will be sent to those who have contributed \$500 or \$200. Additional documentation was made available on contacts for 2015, donation and which Commissioner approached them. The members added their names to the list designating which businesses they would contact.
- b) A lot of discussion on how best to recognize the Sponsors once identified. Use of a banner or flyers that promote the event and note sponsors were considered.
- c) Members will continue to identify new potential sponsors.

Linda Abbott

- a) Members contributed to ASL Association in memory of Linda.
- b) Art Show will be dedicated to Linda. One of her paintings will be on display at the show. Members will consider another way of commemorating Linda's contributions to the Town and the Commission.

Scholarship: Two candidates initially showed an interest but didn't complete the necessary paperwork to submit their application. No scholarship will be given this year.

Adjournment: P. Jones moved that we adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by D. Whalen. The meeting adjourned at 8:35PM .

Next Meeting: May 9, 2016 7:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Sandra Grabierz