

SOMERS CULTURAL COMMISSION

Minutes for Monday, October 14, 2019 Meeting

Members in Attendance: Pat Bachetti, Dot Cutter, Dan Fraro, Sandra Grabierz, Beverly Guimond, Ann Levesque, Donna Lewkowicz, Ginny Lockwood, Gail Tishler, Honorary Member: Neil Connell, Volunteer Angel: Ann Murphy, Guest: Chris Boucher - Recreation/Senior Center Director
Members Absent: Kathy Worcester

The Somers Cultural Commission meeting for Monday, October 14, 2019 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Ann Levesque.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Ann Murphy noted that the September 9, 2019 meeting minutes incorrectly listed \$2,400 as in kind donations received during the 2019 sponsor campaign. The correct amount of in kind donations received was \$1,600. A motion was made by Dan Fraro and seconded by Pat Bachetti to approve the minutes for the September 9, 2019 meeting with the aforementioned correction. The minutes were accepted unanimously. There was no correspondence for this month.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Sandy Grabierz, who reported that the Commission had received the Town's donation of \$2,500 into the general fund. Dan Fraro made a motion to accept the report which was seconded by Gail Tishler. The Treasurer's Report was accepted by the members unanimously.

Sandy presented bills paid by Neil Connell for the Art Show, Scarecrow Contest and the Flag Fixture totaling \$185.44. Sandy also presented a \$47.85 bill for the speaker system purchased for use at the Art Show and Photography Show Receptions. Dan Fraro made a motion to pay the bills which was seconded by Ginny Lockwood. Members unanimously approved the payment of the bills.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLICITY UPDATE

Publicity Coordinator Ginny Lockwood noted that the Somers Cultural Commission Facebook page has quite a following. At the conclusion of the Art Show, Ginny added the 18 winning paintings to the Facebook page. Ginny is also utilizing the Somers Open Forum to advertise the Commission's events, including the Scarecrow Contest. Information regarding the Piedmont Coffeehouses has been sent to the local papers.

REMINDER CONTACT FOR SCC PUBLICITY

Ginny Lockwood will contact the Reminder to inquire about publicity opportunities for SCC events and report back to the Commission at the November meeting.

SOMERS CONNECTIONS MAGAZINE

Donna Lewkowicz submitted pictures of the Town Hall and Senior Center scarecrows with a thank you message to all of the 2019 Scarecrow Contest participants to be published in the next issue.

SCARECROW CONTEST

Donna Lewkowicz reported that the Scarecrow Contest Committee judged 56 scarecrows on Saturday October 12th. The Award Ceremony will be held on Saturday October 26th at 10:30 a.m. in

Piedmont Hall. The Scarecrow Contest Committee has received positive feedback from the businesses and residents regarding their involvement in the event.

2019 ART SHOW UPDATE

Neil Connell reported on another successful Art Show with over 200 people visiting the Piedmont to view 96 paintings. For the first time, Artists were able to offer their portfolios for sale which resulted in the sale of 12 prints.

Entries for the 2020 Art Show will be accepted on August 28, 2020 - August 29, 2020. The Show will run from September 13, 2020- September 27, 2020.

Neil reported that two more panels are needed to support the longer panels for the Art and Photography Shows. Sandy Grabierz requested permission to purchase two 36 inch panels from Staples with a cost of \$268.59 each. Dan Fraro made a motion to approve the purchase of the panels and Pat Bachetti seconded the motion. Members unanimously agreed on the purchase. The panels will be delivered to the Department of Public Works and stored in the Piedmont.

CT VALLEY ARTIST SHOW

Neil Connell reported that Bud Knorr agreed to the Commission sponsoring the CT Valley Artist Show. The Show will open at the Piedmont on May 31, 2020 and will run for two weeks. Publicity for the event will be included on the SCC Facebook page and the SCC event flyer.

2019-2020 COFFEEHOUSE REFRESHMENTS

The Commission discussed keeping the Coffeehouse refreshments simple. Ann Levesque presented an invoice for donuts purchased for the October 13th Coffeehouse. Dan Fraro made a motion to pay the donut purchase and Bev Guimond seconded the motion.

OLDE METHODIST CHURCH SIGN

Ann Levesque presented copies of Piedmont pictures received from Carol Pyne, President of the Somers Historical Society. Neil Connell and Dot Cutter will incorporate the pictures into the written history of the Piedmont that they are preparing. The restored Olde Methodist Church sign and history will be hung within Piedmont for the public to enjoy.

THANK YOU CARDS

Ann Levesque spoke with Kim LaFleur regarding the purchase of 300 cards to be used for thank you notes and other SCC correspondence. Ann Murphy will speak to a local artist regarding sketching a logo for the cards.

NEW BUSINESS

OUTDOOR FACILITIES FOR SUMMER CONCERTS

Chris Boucher, Recreation/Senior Center Director presented three options to the Commission to address the outdoor facility conditions at the summer concerts. The Commission members agreed that the best option is to utilize the Senior Center facilities. Chris agreed to review the logistics and report back to the Commission prior to the special meeting on November 4, 2019. Members thanked Chris for taking time to address this issue.

OCTOBER 13 COFFEEHOUSE WITH ACOUSTIC RICK

Ann Levesque reported that the October 13th Coffeehouse was well attended and raised \$191 in donations.

A Special Meeting of the Somers Cultural Commission is scheduled for Monday, November 4th at Piedmont Hall.

Dan Fraro made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Sandy Grabierz. Members unanimously approved the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Lewkowicz, Secretary *Pro Tem*

NOTE: Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.