

SOMERS CULTURAL COMMISSION

Minutes for Monday, November 4, 2019 Special Meeting

Members in Attendance: Pat Bachetti, Dot Cutter, Dan Fraro, Beverly Guimond, Ann Levesque, Donna Lewkowicz, Ginny Lockwood, Gail Tishler, Volunteer Angel: Ann Murphy.
Members Absent: Sandra Grabierz, Kathy Worcester.

The Somers Cultural Commission special meeting for Monday, November 4, 2019 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Ann Levesque.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

A motion was made by Bev Guimond and seconded by Gail Tishler to approve the minutes for the October 14, 2019 meeting. The minutes were accepted unanimously. There was no correspondence for this month.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no Treasurer's Report presented this month.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLICITY UPDATE

Publicity Coordinator Ginny Lockwood reported that she had received over 90 comments on the Somers CT Open Forum Facebook page regarding the scarecrow photos/contest. Ginny has also subscribed to the Ellington-Somers Patch to publicize the Commission's events.

SOMERS CONNECTION MAGAZINE

DG Graphics has taken over the publication of the Connection magazine. Ginny Lockwood agreed to co-ordinate all future submissions to the magazine. The next publication date is scheduled for February 17, 2020 with a deadline for submissions of January 20, 2020.

SCARECROW CONTEST

Donna Lewkowicz reported that the October 26th Scarecrow Contest Award Ceremony was well attended by residents of all age groups and local businesses. Thank you letters were sent out to all of the community members who helped to make the event successful. Ann Levesque submitted a letter to the Journal Inquirer Editor regarding the community spirit spawned by this event and the benefits of volunteering. Donna Lewkowicz presented receipts totaling \$879.36 to Ann Levesque regarding expenses related to the Scarecrow Contest.

Donna Lewkowicz noted that the assistance of Giovanna Gioscia, a junior at Somers High School, National Honor Society Member and accomplished musician, was greatly appreciated at the Award Ceremony. Donna suggested that we reach out to the Somers High School to partner with the National Honor Society to participate in future events. A discussion ensued to add a youth liaison to the Commission as a non-voting member. Ann Levesque agreed to speak to Ann Logan on this point.

A discussion also ensued regarding showcasing the Somers High School band and chorus at a Coffeehouse. Ann Levesque and Donna Lewkowicz agreed to look into this further and report back to the Committee at the January 2020 meeting.

NOMBER 10th COFFEEHOUSE

Ann Murphy agreed to introduce the Cartells at the November 10th Coffeehouse in Ann Levesque's absence. Pat Bachetti volunteered to pick up the yard signs following the concert.

OLDE METHODIST CHURCH SIGN

Dot Cutter and Neil Connell are working on the historical write-up of Piedmont Hall. Dot will provide an update at the January 2020 meeting.

THANK YOU CARD PURCHASE

Ann Murphy reported that Allyssa Norton did an outstanding black and white sketch of Piedmont Hall for the centerpiece of the SCC notecards. Ann Levesque reported that an order has been placed for 300 thank you cards and 300 blank notecards. A motion was made by Dot Cutter and seconded by Gail Tishler to award Allyssa a stipend based on the going rate for illustrators as recommended by Neil Connell. Members unanimously agreed.

OUTDOOR FACILITIES FOR SUMMER CONCERTS

Ann Levesque spoke with Chris Boucher, Recreation/Senior Center Director who confirmed that the Senior Center facilities will be available for the summer concerts. Details regarding staffing are presently being worked out.

NEW BUSINESS

PIEDMONT HALL DOORS

Ann Levesque reminded all members to ensure the door is locked when leaving Piedmont Hall.

COFFEE POT

Ann Levesque noted that Bob Hall has taken one of the coffee pots home for repairs after Sandy Grabierz reported the cord was getting extremely hot.

SUMMER CONCERTS

Ann Murphy noted that some towns are moving their outdoor summer concerts to indoor venues for 2020 amid concerns regarding the EEE virus. Ann Levesque agreed this will be discussed further at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Somers Cultural Commission is scheduled for Monday, January 13th at Piedmont Hall. (Per the By-laws, the Commission does not hold a meeting in December).

Bev Guimond made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Dot Cutter. Members unanimously approved the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Lewkowicz, Secretary

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