

Somers Cultural Committee Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2021 7:00 p.m. Piedmont Hall

Present: Chair Ann Levesque, Pat Bachetti, Neil Connell, Eileen Fedorowich, Dan Fraro, Elaine Friedman, Giselle Genece, Lynne Goss, Bev Guimond, Bob Hall, Ann Murphy, Isabella Nolasco, Cindy Rusinowski, Terri Schmidt, Gail Tishler.

Call to Order: Ann opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Elaine Friedman held the flag as commission pledged to the flag.

Secretary's Report: Bev Guimond's name was missed on the attendance last meeting. Bev motioned to accept amended minutes and Gail seconded. So approved.

There was no correspondence.

Treasurer's Report: The financial report was presented and there was no discussion. Elaine motioned to accept and Dan seconded. Approved.

There were no bills presented at this time.

Bev is stepping down as treasurer. Thank you Bev for your commitment to this position. Ann will cover this position until April at which time Elaine will step into this spot.

Old Business: Neil reported on our recent Art Show which was very successful. We had 83 entries and raised \$1450. There were 194 guests that visited the show and one painting sold for \$385. Next year's dates are Sept 18-Oct 2 with entries received Aug 26-27. The juror will be Barbara Groff. Neil received a note from Donna Shaw appreciating the yearly Art Show.

The Fall Concert Series consisted of 6 weekend shows-no changes needed for next year as well received and attended. Advertised on the Patch which was helpful getting the word out locally and to surrounding towns. Cost \$2175 for concerts. Ann wrote a letter to the editor which was printed thanking commission members, the community, the entertainers.

Cindy reported on the history of Piedmont. Neil will be doing a drawing of the actual theater that existed here and Cindy will be producing a layout to be put on the wall at Piedmont. Part A-purpose to now, Part B-happenings prior to. A history timeline on paper. A possible mock-up for the Jan 10 meeting. Bob has some photos. Will check with Dave to print final.

Our Coffee House series will run the 2nd Sunday of the month beginning January thru April from 6-8 p.m. Dee Riley Jan 9, Noah Lis Feb, Handler/Mark LeVeck March, Fred Marion April. No food/beverages and chairs to be lined no tables. Proof of vaccine, reservations, limit audience to 50 plus musicians and members. Bev motioned with Elaine second. Approved. Terri will accept calls for reservations.

Ann Murphy showed the letter for the 2022 sponsorship. \$9,000 from sponsors this year. We will mail to all sponsors but also reach out to friends, neighbors, in memory of a lost one or to honor someone one. Picked up 5 sponsors for the summer series and 9 for the fall series. Suggested taking the letter when reaching out and also wearing commission name badge.

New Business: Giselle reported on the summer Family Movie Night. These would fill in where there were no concerts. Need for a projector/screen. Speakers outside need to be strong to carry the sound. Projector has what is called "lumens"(quality)-2700 lumens \$900-\$1000. Need

for professional grade. Isabella suggested perhaps high school senior project might have interest and could help. School projector not strong enough. Students raise money to offset cost(no guarantees). \$350 to rent-worth it? Isabella will check and get back at Jan meeting. Elaine motioned to get back with options at Jan meeting and Dan seconded. Approved. Mother's Day concert and the Four Town Fair concert dates were discussed. Motion made by Cindy to skip May 8 and Sept 17 concerts and do other three. Lynne seconded. Approved. The December 3rd Holiday event entails wreath decorating and gingerbread house display and competition at Piedmont. Wreaths will decorate the walls and be donated after the event to Somers needy families. Terri will decorate a wreath for our commission. There is a \$25 fee to enter. Thank you Terri. Pat suggested we send a thank you to Alesha for all her time and expertise in filming our concert series this year. So beneficial and viewed by many who couldn't perhaps get to the concerts or were away. So appreciated.

Adjournment: Elaine motioned to adjourn the meeting and Bev seconded. Approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The next meeting will be January 10, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Safe and Happy Holidays everyone!

Respectfully submitted, Pat Bachetti, secretary

Note: Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting