

Somers Cultural Commission Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2023 7:00 p.m. Piedmont Hall

Present: Pat Bachetti, Neil Connell, Eileen Fedorowich, Dan Fraro, Lynne Goss, Ann Levesque (chairperson), Dave Marti, Ann Murphy, Lianette Sheehan, Gail Tishler

Absent: Giselle Genece, Terri Schmidt, Tim Simoes

Guest: Yvonne Besse

Call to Order: Ann called the meeting to order at 7:01. Members pledged our flag. Ann welcomed our newest member Lianette Sheehan. Welcome Lianette, we are so happy to have you join us. Ann introduced our guest Yvonne Besse, who is interested in becoming a member and is visiting tonight.

Secretary's Report: There were no additions or corrections. Dan motioned to accept as presented and Gail seconded. Approved.

Correspondence: Terri Schmidt is away and emailed Ann requesting she be considered to the position of treasurer which is open at present. Dan motioned to accept Terri's request and Pat seconded. Approved. Thank you Terri.

Treasurer's Report: Ann presented the treasurer's report. Dan motioned to accept as presented and Eileen seconded. Approved.

Bills for approval: Ann presented bills totaling \$42.21 for approval. Dan motioned to approve payment and Gail seconded. Approved.

Neil spoke about the upcoming Photography Show in May. Entry forms are complete and are ready to be sent out. There is a list of about 200. If anyone knows someone or needs one please let Neil know. He requested Ann speak to Todd Roland about the panels being put up and placed at Piedmont April 11 or 12. Posters will go out in town. Ginny, Ann Murphy, Kim will cover publicity(FB, Somers Forum, town website, newspapers). Eileen will cover Woodcrest. Thank you ladies for always doing such a good job.

At our April meeting Pat will provide the "sitter's guide" with dates and times for show. Please bring your calendars for volunteering some time for the show.

Our recent Coffee House was a great success with an Irish theme and the "Healy's Irish story telling and music. There was an outstanding crowd. The new time change of the shows was also welcomed by attendees. Donations received were \$262.00. This is our last Coffee House this year as we move into our spring concert series shortly.

Ann passed out our 2023 concert series schedule-spring, summer, fall and the entertainers.

Dorothy Bynack, a long time supporter and attendee of our concerts and coffee house, sponsored 6 concerts in our series this year as part of her bequest to the commission. We are honored and thankful for her kindness. Dorothy will be sadly missed.

There was discussion regarding the Holiday Festival for this year and having the "KC Sisters" to entertain. How many in group? Changes in time of program? Fee to be paid? Ann and Dave will meet with chair Maureen to discuss possibilities, etc. Also an opportunity to promote through the schools(outreach to younger families). Tabled until more information at a future meeting.

The Sponsor Campaign was undated by Ann Murphy and is doing exceptionally well. Very solid and so appreciated the response from our community. To date we have received \$9,800.

So great!

The corridors in town hall have art displayed by some of the local folks but is becoming sparse and walls beginning to look empty. Dave and Neill presented suggestions and ideas for the 3 corridors involved. We could invite folks to showcase their art(some people may not even be aware of this)on one of the walls and on the other two do historic pictures of our town. Perhaps these pictures could be framed and carded individually with the history of each picture. Amazon has frames fairly inexpensive. They will gather information to present at our next meeting. Members agreed this was a great idea.

Neil presently has 35 pieces of his art on exhibit at the Longmeadow Adult Community Center. The showing is through the month of March. The hours are Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sat 9a.m. -1 p.m. Call 413-565-4150 to avoid any classes being held in the rooms. He will also have an exhibit the month of June in the Suffield Library.

Dave motioned for adjournment and Dan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on April 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Bachetti, secretary

Minutes not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.