

Somers Cultural Committee Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2023 7:00 p.m. Piedmont Hall

Present: Pat Bachetti, Yvonne Besse, Eileen Fedorowich, Giselle Genece, Lynne Goss, Bob Hall, Ann Levesque(chairperson), Dave Marti, Terri Schmidt, Tim Simoes, Gail Tishler

Absent: Dan Fraro, Ann Murphy, Lianette Sheehan

Call to order: Chairperson Ann called the meeting to order at 7:06. Committee members pledged our flag.

Secretary's Report: The report was presented and no corrections or additions discussed.

Tim motioned to accept the minutes as read and Dave seconded. Approved.

Correspondence: Ann received a note from one of our long-time followers and sponsors in memory of her late husband wishing commission good luck with the upcoming concerts and very much looking forward to attending.

Treasurer's Report: Terri presented the profit/loss statement as of March 31, 2023. Having no questions Tim motioned to accept and Pat seconded. Approved.

Bills for approval: Bills presented totaled \$9.60. Tim motioned to approve payment and Dave seconded. Approved.

Dave reported on the upcoming Holiday Fest December 9. He spoke with Ann Kirkpatrick from the Somers Congregational Church of perhaps having the KC Sisters there from 2-4 before the tree lighting. The church would then have the bell ringers at 7:00 as scheduled. They would also allow donations to be made. Discussed the possibility of having concert rain dates there. (would pay sextant for services-thank you). Regarding Piedmont Hall during the Holiday Fest....there will be the gingerbread houses and decorated Christmas wreaths and suggested having Christmas music playing in the background with the decorated holiday tree as usual. Ann will touch base with Maureen. Vicki Worenicki, an active community volunteer, is making 30 artificial wreaths for the affair.

Ann Murphy was absent and there was no report on the Sponsorship Campaign. Ann Levesque stated that the campaign is continuing to do well and might be extended a bit longer.

Pat updated on the upcoming Photography Show. Entries will be coming in April 21-22 and the show begins May 7 with the opening reception and continues from May 11-14 and May 18-21. She passed out the "sitters schedule" for members to sign to sit during show hours. The Art Corridor Project at town hall is tabled until next meeting. Dave said he and Neil are still working on ideas such as town history, local photographers, etc. Talking of changing it out every couple months.

Bob Hall presented the scholarship candidate's portfolio for viewing by members . He passed out her application form for the Visual Arts Scholarship. If approved by commission she will be awarded the \$1000 scholarship for her work. Bob added that this young lady has won numerous awards for her art and is an excellent candidate. After viewing her portfolio members were very impressed with her talent and Tim motioned to approve and Yvonne seconded to award the scholarship to Hallie Watt, Somers High School Senior.

Dave also mentioned and highly recommended attending the "Celebration of the Arts" to be held on May 23 at the high school celebrating the arts. Hallie will also have more of her work displayed at the function. Ann reported the outdoor concert contracts are coming back on a regular basis now. Our spring series will be kicking off soon.

Lynne spoke on a new group called RISE to promote support for folks of all ages having difficulty with cognitive, emotional, spiritual needs. They will provide social/mental support through different programs. Right now looking for support and letting people know and promoting the group. She will bring more information at a later date.

The fundraiser was discussed and tabled for another meeting. Needs further discussion.

The Town of Somers and the Somers Public Schools has partnered with The Bushnell of Hartford in offering special individual online tickets at a discount. Ann presented copies from Kim LaFleur from the town hall for members.

Our commission recently lost one of our dedicated members. Memorial donations are suggested in honor of a life well lived to the Somers Senior Center where she was a long-time, active member. Tim motioned to make a donation from the commission of \$50 in her memory. Terri seconded. Approved. She will be missed by many.

Ann adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on May 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Bachetti, secretary

Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.