

Somers Cultural Commission Meeting Minutes 7:00 p.m.

Piedmont Hall March 11, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Present: Pat Bachetti, Yvonne Besse, Eileen Fedorowich, Dan Fraro, Lynne Goss, Ann Levesque(chairperson), Dave Marti, Tim Simone, Gail Tishler

Absent: Giselle Genece, Bob Hall, Terri Schmidt

Guest: John Kelleher(potential member), Karen Murdoch, owner Worthington Pond Vineyard and Winery in Somers, CT.

Call to Order: Members saluted our flag and Ann called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Secretary's Report: Minutes were presented with one addition(name) and no corrections. Motion by Pat to accept, seconded by Yvonne. Approved.

There was no correspondence.

In Bob Hall's absence he requested we promote the upcoming high school play, "Grease" this weekend.

Treasurer's Report: Ann gave the treasurer's report in Terri's absence. There were no questions or discussion.

Bills for approval: \$24.44. Tim motioned to approve report and payment and Dave seconded. Approved.

Ann introduced our guest Karen Murdoch. She was hoping to get assistance for an art show at their vineyard. Perhaps 5-10 local artists with perhaps 20 pieces of art for display. Would hold it on a weekend and maybe Friday evening would be meet and greet the artists. Thought to start indoors over a weekend and if successful expand to the covered bridge. Neil mentioned Sandy Wakeim, a local artist who suggested also a "Paint Off" or "Paint Fair" where one day artists could come and paint outside as the grounds are so pretty. Karen also requested the commission could sponsor this on it's website. She and Neil will follow up.

Ann reminded members of the annual sponsorship program beginning soon. Forms are available and requesting members to reach out to businesses and neighbors.

Everyone was delighted with Pierce Campbell at our St. Pat's Coffee House recently. Wonderful attendance and great feedback. Commission agreed to invite him back again next year.

The spring/summer concerts are all confirmed. Trying to bring in a few more that will attract the younger age group. Example 70s-90s music.

Lynne spoke of the negative aspect of using the styrofoam cups. Not bio-degradable. We will change up next year for the coffee house. Dave suggested we get a water cooler using paper cups for those who want water. He will look into this.

A Mary Drayton painting is looking for a home. Suggested appropriate for the town hall. Good wall space and viewing.

The Photography Show is fast approaching. This year's entry form is available and Tim will post the form and email to past photographers. Pat will have the sitter's schedule available at next month's meeting. Please bring your calendars and availability as important to our show.

Entries will be received Friday/Saturday April 19-20 9am-12pm.

Opening reception May 5 1-3 Awards at 1:30.

Show hours May 9-12 10am-2 pm and May 16-19 10am-2pm

Pick up works from show: Sunday May 19 2-3 pm

Monday May 20 2-3 pm

Show committee meeting April 5 at 9:30 at Piedmont.

The Holiday Fest and the KC Sisters was updated by Ann. They are available for that evening at 7:00 pm. Increase in fee this year. Commission agreed on \$1700 for entire group and \$1500 for smaller group.

Tim suggested trying an "open mic" next year. He's getting a new sound system and perhaps a Saturday afternoon or even have a couple extra coffee houses earlier. Try promoting it to a younger group-maybe seek high school students through the music teacher. Even could do it after the fall Art Show. Tim will pursue.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02. The next meeting will be on April 8 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Bachetti, secretary

Minutes not official until voted on at a subsequent meeting.

