



MIDDLETOWN COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

Middletown Commission on the Arts Minutes of Meeting Wednesday, March 23, 2016

Present

Jenny Hawkins Lecce (chair)
Franca Biales (v. chair) (arr 7:17pm)
Julia Faraci (sec.)
Lee Godburn
Barbara Arafeh
Charlotte McCoid
Sara MacSorley
Robert Santangelo (arr 7:13pm)
Sebastian Giuliano (arr 7:20pm)

Absent

Fran Ganguli
Joyce Kirkpatrick
Cassandra Day
Jay Hoggard
Stephan Allison (Arts Coordinator)
Susan Allison (Poet Laureate)
Alexandra Porczak (student rep)
Arthur Moore (student rep)

Call to Order

Jenny Hawkins Lecce, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:10pm in Room 208, Municipal Building.

Public Session

Pierre Sylvain, Middletown local artist, was introduced to Commissioners.

Minutes

February 24, 2016 - Motion to approve Minutes by Godburn, seconded by Arafeh, carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Faraci to approve Agenda, seconded by McCoid, carried unanimously.

Remarks from the Chair: None.

Old Business – with the absence of the Arts Coordinator, no reports on the following items:

Budget Report -

Program Update

- i) Arts Stakeholders Group
- ii) Kids Arts
- iii) Feet to the Fire (F2F)
- iv) Poet Laureate
- v) Municipal Bldg. update –
- vi) Other – none

Committee Reports

Executive Committee– Faraci will be attending FOIL training on March 24.

Public Art Committee –

Public Art Committee Meeting met on March 9, and followed with a walk-through of the Municipal Building on March 11 to review and plan arrangement of the exhibit. A work day for the art to be moved and placed will be scheduled in the first week of April; assistance will be welcome.

The Public Art Committee Policy / Middletown City Art Collection document has been updated and was distributed at the meeting. It will also be distributed electronically. Commissioners were asked to review before it is submitted to the Mayor's office.

Godburn moved that the Middletown Commission on the Arts acquire artwork by artist Pierre Sylvain for \$650.00, seconded by Biales. As Sylvain recommended his work "The Twin Brothers" for the City Art Collection, the motion was amended: that the Middletown Commission on the Arts purchase the artwork "The Twins" (aka "The Twin Brothers") by artist Pierre Sylvain for \$650.00. Motion to approve by Biales, seconded by Giuliano, the amendment was carried unanimously. The motion with the amendment was carried unanimously.

A Veterans Memorial is being planned for the Council Chambers. Thirty feet long and featuring panels of text and

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charcoal re-creations of photos of veterans from wars from the beginning of the 20th century on, it will be fixed on the wall of the Chambers but will be movable to other locations. The Commission extended its support and enthusiasm for the project.

Nominating Committee - Ongoing.

Planning and Projects Committee

Arthur Meyers, Pamela Tatge, and MAC650 will be honored with Arts Advocacy Awards at a reception to be held at MAC650 on April 27th from 5:00 to 6:30pm. The public is invited to attend.

Wadsworth Mansion Open Air Market (August 28) – discussion of MCA’s booth; to be added to April agenda.

Music Sub-Committee

Discussion on how Committee can become more involved with SummerSounds and other music events in the City.

New Business

2016-2017 budget – No report.

Grants / Grants Panels – March applications have been submitted. Hoggard, McCoid, and Day were selected for the panel, with Faraci as alternate.

One Percent for Art – Discussion of campaign that requires that one percent of construction costs for new or renovated municipal buildings should be allocated for city art. To be discussed in future meeting.

April MCA Meeting – As the Arts Advocacy reception at MAC650 immediately precedes the next MCA meeting, MacSorley offered the use of Green Street for the April meeting.

Miscellaneous

Grant Reports – ongoing

Announcements

Middletown Public School Art Show attracted many visitors and was a great success.

An Arts and Advocacy event is at Hartford Public Library at 5pm on March 28.

The Big Draw will be at Wesleyan on April 16.

Faust at Middletown Performing Arts Center will be presented by the Greater Middletown Concert

Association on Sunday, April 3. Another opera and a flamenco dance program will follow at a later date.

Adjournment

Chair Lecce entertained a motion from Faraci to adjourn at 8:26pm; seconded by McSorley.

The next MCA regular monthly meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2016, at 7:00pm, in the Multi-Purpose Room at Green Street Teaching and Learning Center, Green Street, Middletown.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Faraci, Secretary