



MIDDLETOWN COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

Middletown Commission on the Arts Minutes of Meeting Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Present

Franca Biales (vice chair)
Cassandra Day
Barbara Arafteh
Lee Godburn
Joyce Kirkpatrick
Jay Hoggard
Charlotte McCoid
Sara McSorley

Also Present

Stephan Allison, coordinator

Absent

Jenny Lecce (chair)
Julia Faraci (secretary)
Fran Ganguli
Sebastian Giuliano
Robert Santangelo
Susan Allison (poet laureate)
Alexandra Porczak (student rep)
Arthur Moore (student rep)

Call to Order

Vice Chair Biales called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. in City Hall, B-19 after meeting location was moved from Room 208 due to conflicting scheduling issues

Public Session – no members of the public present.

Minutes

April 27, 2016 - Motion to approve minutes by Kirkpatrick, seconded by McCoid, carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by McSorley to approve agenda, seconded by Kirkpatrick, carried unanimously.

Remarks from the Chair: - none.

Old Business –

Budget Report – no report

Program Update

- i) Arts Stakeholders Group – nothing to report
- ii) Kids Arts – registration is continuing, on pace to full enrollment, presently approx. ¾ full both programs.
- iii) Feet to the Fire (F2F) –rainy weather may have kept some people away but considering that, there was good turnout with expanded offerings this year.
- iv) Poet Laureate – Susan Allison gave a reading at F2F on May 7.
- v) Municipal Bldg. update – McCoid shared that the newly organized MCA exhibit on the walls in City Hall looks very nice. Some clutter remains in the City Hall lobby which should be cleared to avoid distractions and provide full view of city arts collection works.
- vi) Facebook - McSorley reported work is ongoing with the city's IT department to get an administrator set up, across-the-board look to all the city's Facebook pages.
- vii) arts2go.org - ongoing
- viii) Other – none

Committee Reports

Executive Committee– no report

Public Art Committee –

\$150 MCAAA award given to Madison Geores of MHS. Charlotte said this is the first time there were honorable mentions made during the awards. Joyce made a motion to spend no more than \$250 to frame MCAAA Award winner Madison Geores' acrylic painting. Cassandra seconds; passes unanimously. Charlotte will call Middletown Plate Glass for a framing estimate.

Nominating Committee –

Names will be taken by the June meeting to elect the slate of officers during the July MCA meeting. All are invited to send suggestions to Arafeh and Godburn.

Planning and Projects Committee

A meeting was held to discuss August's Open Air Market, including suggestions on changing the children's mask making. Allison will suggest to the Friends of the Long Hill the idea of securing money for varied/more musical acts.

Music Sub-Committee – the 25th anniversary of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords is this year.

New Business

2016-2017 budget – Allison said the \$23,000 cut from the MCA budget was restored by the Common Council and the veterans mural to be painted by local artist David Schulz, to be installed in council chambers, is now a line item under the arts budget – of approximately \$19,000.

Grants – Kirkpatrick suggested that a small subcommittee meet to talk about procedures in the grant application process to streamline it.

Other – none

Miscellaneous

Announcements –

Arafeh announced the Flamenco Dance Project will take place June 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the Middletown High School Performing Arts Center.

Kirkpatrick shared that Karyl Evans' documentary, "Letter from Italy, 1944: A New American Oratorio," recently received two New England Emmy nominations (producer/director/writer/editor) for GMChorale-commissioned film. Winners to be announced June 4 at New England Emmy Awards in Boston.

Other – none

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Kirkpatrick; seconded by Day at 8:27 p.m.

The next MCA regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 22, 2016, at 7:00pm, in Room 208, Municipal Building, 245 deKoven Drive, Middletown.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra Day, filling in for Secretary Julia Faraci