

# Middletown Commission on the Arts

Minutes, March 25, 2015

## Present

Jenny Hawkins Lecce (v.c)  
Franca Biales (sec.)  
Lee Godburn  
Joyce Kirkpatrick  
Sara MacSorley  
Julia Faraci  
Barbara Arafteh (8:30)  
Jay Hoggard (7:08)  
Anthony Moran (Student rep)  
Sebastian Giuliano  
Robert Santangelo

## Also Present

Stephan Allison, Staff

## Absent

Cassandra Day (chair)  
Jackie Pawlak (Student rep)  
Fran Ganguli  
Charlotte McCoid

## Call to order

Jenny Hawkins Lecce, Chair pro tem, called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm in Municipal Building, room 208.

**Public Session** – There being no public present, there was no public session.

## Minutes

a) February 25, 2015 - Motion to approve by Commissioner Godburn seconded by Councilman Santangelo. Motion passed with two abstentions. Councilmen Santangelo and Giuliano abstained.

## Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended to reflect the correction of the date of last month's minutes, by Commissioner Kirkpatrick, seconded by Commissioner Godburn. Carried unanimously.

**Remarks from the Chair** – none

## Old Business:

- a) **Budget Report-** Stephan Allison reviewed current budget with commission.
- b) **Program Update**
  - i. Arts Stakeholders Group – Next meeting, April 8 at Buttonwood Tree. Pot-luck dinner.
  - ii. Summer Sounds – Ongoing. Will continue to be held at Harbor Park.
  - iii. Kids Arts – ongoing. Registration forms are available online and in schools. Need to reduce counselors by 4 due to increase in minimum wage and no increase in budget.
  - iv. Fireworks- July 3<sup>rd</sup> –looking to live stream on WMRD
- c) **Semi-annual report to Mayor/Common Council** – Chair Day will attend the April 30<sup>th</sup> Common Council meeting. Committee chairs will provide brief overview of work done by MCA to Cassandra Day.
- d) Other- none

## Committee Reports:

- a) **Endowment Research Committee** – ongoing
- b) **Executive Committee-** Need to review MCA policy on recusal during the grant awarding process. Councilman Giuliano moved to move the executive committee report discussion to New Business. Seconded by Councilman Santangelo. Passed unanimously.
- c) **Nominating Committee- no report**

- i. Review of Bylaws – ongoing
- d) **Planning and Projects Committee-**
  - i. Poet Laureate-
 

Motion not to provide honorarium for Poet Laureate by Commissioner Godburn, seconded by Commissioner Kirkpatrick. Motion defeated 5-2 with 2 abstentions. Commissioners Kirkpatrick and Godburn voting yes. Five no votes from Councilmen Santangelo and Giuliano, Commissioners MacSorley, Lecce and Biales. Two abstentions from Commissioners Faraci and Hoggard.

Chair pro tem tasked Lee Godburn, through Planning and Projects, to move forward on the Poet Laureate.
  - ii. Arts Advocacy Award(s)- March 24, 2015-
 

Awards presented to John Basinger, and to the Middleshire Artists at Kid City.

Thank you to Nora Cupcakes, Tainos and Jen Alexander for their contributions to making the event successful.
  - iii. Kids Arts expansion considerations-report to Common council on April 30.
- e) **Public Art Committee**
  - i. Public Art Policy for Acquisitions- ongoing

### **New Business**

- a) Offer of donation for City Art Collection from Patricia Ghezzi. It is a photograph that was selected by the Lily Foundation as a 1<sup>st</sup> prize winner. Will go to Public Art Committee.
- b) Grants panel selection- cat 2&3 will be reviewed by panel. Panelists are Jay Hoggard, Jenny Lecce and Julia Faraci. Franca Biales will serve as alternate. Will meet on Tuesday, April 7, 2015.
- c) Discussion of MCA conflict of interest bylaws. Bylaws committee will review.

### **Miscellaneous**

- a) Grant Report(s)- submitted to commissioners electronically
- b) Announcements
  - MHS VoAg open house, April 9, from 5-7.
  - Green Street is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> year. On Friday, April 17th from 5-8pm there will be a fundraiser at FroyoWorld on Main Street for youth programs
  - GMC will present Mozart's Requiem, Sunday, April 26 at 4:00 pm. MHS
  - Middletown Goes to the Symphony will be May 11, 2015. A not to be missed performance. Tickets may be purchased through MPS's central office.
  - The Greater Middletown Concert Association's line up for this year has been announced
    - March 28, 2015 - The Barber of Seville
    - April 12, 2015- A Multimedia Music Tribute to 19<sup>th</sup> Century Middletown Composers
    - May 29, 2015 - La Bohème

### **Adjournment**

Adjournment at 9:10 pm.

The MCA will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 in Room 208, Municipal Building beginning at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Franca Biales