

East Windsor Arts and Culture
Meeting Minutes
7/12/22
6:30 PM
Town Hall, Broad Brook

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting

Commission members in attendance: Bernie Duffy, , Karen Stavolone, Debbie Williams, Russell Williams

Additional Individuals present: Jeff Holcombe, Sarah A. Muska (Selectman – Commission Advisor), Josh Esan

I. Call to Order/Attendance

Debbie called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes of 5/16 Special Meeting, 6/6 Special Meeting and 6/41 Regular Meeting

A motion to approve all three meeting's minutes was brought by Bernie and Russell seconded.

III. Jim's email/pride in group (requested by Karen and pending Jim's attendance)

Jim was not present at the meeting so this item was not discussed.

a. Committee vs. commission

Debbie spoke with First Selectman Bowsza who verified that Arts and Culture is in fact a Committee. This distinction makes the group temporary, with an end date of April 2023. At that time A+C can apply to extend our Committee status or apply to become a Commission, which is permanent. We agreed to apply to become a Commission in April 2023.

IV. On-going/Old Business

a. Arts and Crafts Showcase

Debbie read a note from Melissa Maltese, head of Parks and Rec and therefore the Summer Concert Series. It read, in part, "I think this (the Arts and Crafts Showcase) will be a great addition to the concert series. Great job." Debbie took this as an indication that A+C would be invited to have Showcases next summer as well. In fact, an artist already inquired about having a space next year. The four artists who attended the June 16 Showcase had positive experiences. On July 14 we will have 6 artists, all from East Windsor. Debbie contacted the reporter from the JI to let him know about the event but he did not respond.

b. Logo contest

The logo contest is ongoing, with several flyers handed out during the Showcase. We will have flyers at the next two Showcases and then talk about capping the contest.

c. Collaboration with AHRC

The search for a wood carver is ongoing. The River Commission is still very interested in moving forward with this project .

d. Collaboration with schools

Debbie has a meeting with the principal and vice principal of EWS on Monday, July 18. She will present our top 3 ideas (graduation project, chain link fence fabric, and painting parking spaces) as well as any others they would like to hear. Karen suggested getting the Leos involved and offered to help out with after school projects as needed.

V. New Business

a. Budget

We were awarded \$4,000 in the town budget. Christina has donated her \$450 Recording Secretary fee to the Committee and Russell is trying to match that amount through his company. We also have \$150 in donations and \$130 from the Showcases (with \$20 more coming). The CT Office of the Arts is accepting applications for Supporting Arts Grants. The deadline is August 1, 2022. Discussion was opened about projects to mention in the grant application and the Committee unanimously voted (Russell 1st, Bernie 2nd) to have an Arts and Culture Festival in the Spring of 2023 with art, music, and food. Bernie will contact a coordinator of Manchester Art in the Park for information and Debbie will apply for the grant.

b. Photography contest

c. Media day for trolley mural

Possibly July 22nd. The Trolley Museum Director is coordinating it. Nothing has been finalized.

Debbie suggested moving Agenda items d-h to the next meeting so we can focus on the Photography Contest. Russell made the motion, Debbie seconded. The vote was unanimous.

d. Visiting artists series

e. Soul painting workshop

f. Movies in the park

g. DPW projects

h. Revisit flag idea

b. Photography contest

Debbie handed out copies of rules for photography contests held in other towns. Discussion was started as to what our contest would look like. We considered having all the submission be digital, with hard copy displays after the contest is over. There was some discussion about points highlighted in the handout. Debbie asked for everyone to review the handouts and bring ideas and opinions to the next meeting for a more thorough discussion.

VI. Public Participation

VII. Adjourn

Russell motioned to adjourn the meeting and Russell 2nd. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Williams, Chair of the East Windsor Arts and Culture Committee