

ENFIELD CULTURE & ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Monthly Meeting – January 3, 2017

Enfield Town Hall at 6:00 pm

Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm by Kassie Huhtanen

Present

Kassie Huhtanen, Mary Keller, Donna Hamre, Sue Muldoon, Marguerite French, Jennefer Ryan, Matthew Sylvester, Emily McIntosh, Damon Patnoe, Shannon Esslinger, Tom Arnone, Bill Lee, Sam Dupuis, Shannon Grant

We reviewed meeting minutes from the December meeting. Minutes were accepted and approved by Kassie Huhtanen, 2nd by Emily McIntosh.

Chairperson's Remarks

Sam Dupuis recently lost her husband. Our condolences were given to her and she was presented with a flower plant as a token of our sympathy. -

Treasurer's Report

Our balance is \$38,307.87 and we are all up to date.

Staff Liaison's Remarks

none

Old Business

Festival of Trees was a success. We budgeted \$200 for the event and only spent \$156 thanks to Big Y offering us a buy 2 get 1 free discount. The library is looking forward to working with us again next year.

Thank you notes were signed to be sent to both the Library and Enfield Fire Department for their collaboration with us on The Torchlight Parade and the Festival of Trees.

New Business –

Sue Muldoon: presented an event idea featuring Coracree, Janie Rothfield Band. This is a concert series that would represent music and dance from Appalachian, Celtic and European Traditions as well as their own compositions and songs. The event would also feature workshops on the various instruments included in the performance. The location that she had in mind is Fermi as an indoor venue. The workshops could be held in the classrooms. The event date that was presented was Feb 10th but they will be touring and Sue will follow up to see if they will be in the area again later in the year. The concert fees range from \$2,000-\$2,500 depending on travel.

Soundboard set up would need to be arranged. Sound board and speakers would be required because Fermi does not have the equipment that we would need for this event. Shannon and Jennefer will price sound equipment rentals. Shannon will also check with Asnuntuck to see if they have a soundboard that would be available to us.

Other possible venues would be the Enfield Senior Center or JFK. This would be a good event to tie in with the Heritage Fair in 2018. Further discussion pending.

Sam Dupuis: presented the Artists and Artisans Festival. The date has been set for September 30, 2017. A permit has been submitted for use of the Town Green. The event will run rain or shine. The event time will be 10:00am-4:30pm. Set up will be at 7am. We have voted previously to go forward with this event. The Flyer will be updated with the event times for our next meeting and will be prepared for distribution.

We will need ECAC Member presence from open to close. A sign up will be prepared for our February Meeting to sign up for shifts to ensure representation.

It was discussed adding a kid's tent with an art activity for the children to be discussed further at a future meeting.

We also discussed doing an outreach to include the Asnuntuck students, with possible spaces free of charge for students to show their work.

A large tent rental was suggested as a way to ensure that the event could go on rain or shine. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

The art festival will be a juried event. The jury will be for entry into the show, there will be no prizes or awards. The entries will be sent to Mary Keller and the submissions will be reviewing as they are received and either accepted or declined at the time of receipt. There will be a small subcommittee to review the submissions and to track the types of mediums and accept the artists as they are received. There will be a \$60 fee to reserve the artists space in the festival. If the artist is declined or the event is canceled for any reason the fee will be returned in full.

Bill Lee will mention the event at tonight's Town Council Meeting.

Damon Patnoe spoke about Logo Shirts for the commission members to wear at events to identify ourselves as commission members. He is pricing shirt and sweatshirt options. A t-shirt order form was passed around for types of shirt/sweatshirt desired so that Damon can work on getting prices. The shirts would be paid for by commission members and would not come out of our budget.

The purchase of a 10x10 pop up was also discussed. This would be beneficial for the commission members to use at events to identify ourselves and our logo can be screened directly on the pop up canvas. Both the pop up and the apparel will be included in our Marketing plan completed in the future.

Shannon Grant attended the meeting as a guest to present her project "Enfield Rocks" which is primarily a Facebook Group. The idea behind the project is for community members, families, Scout Troops, etc. to paint

rocks of various shapes and sizes and hide them around town within the community. Residents can find, re-hide or keep the rocks that they find. The primary goal is to spread joy and brighten people's day. This is a community-building group meant to inspire creativity in all ages and energize people to explore the beautiful area we live in.

The event would take place at the Enfield Public Library in May during the Enfield Public Schools "Tame the Tube" Week. Specific dates to be announced in the near future. The total budget for the event would be \$500 for supplies and food/snacks, which is variable based on donations. The event would target Teens who would paint the rocks ahead of time prior to the event and younger kids and families who participate in the event.

The event is loosely based on abandoned art and would encourage teens to be mentors for the project.

Amy Witbro and KITE will assist with the marketing for this event.

Possible future collaboration between ECAC and Enfield Rocks is possible at future events.

Emily McIntosh presented the following event ideas. She worked in collaboration with other board members to help work out the details of the events.

The Torch Light Parade and Costume/Performing Arts Workshop

The proposal is to replace the stilt walkers that we have had at the event for the past two years and replace with Krampus characters and an interactive 6 day theater workshop, for ages 14+ to adult. The dates would be the second week of October and the Second week of November as well as participating in the Torchlight Parade. During the parade, participants would hand out pre-printed cards to the parade goers explaining the culture and history surrounding the Krampus traditions. The costumed participants can also interact with families on the town green to pose for

photos with Santa Claus. The budget for the event is \$1000 which would cover the cost of materials. The completed costumes would remain with the commission for future use. Shannon and Damon will be working on donations of materials from area stores and businesses to offset some of the cost. Shannon and Emily will donate their sewing machines for the workshops.

We will need to talk to the Fire Departments for their permission to add this event to the parade.

We will work in collaboration with the Enfield High School Arts and Theater departments as well as Asnuntuck for the student's participation.

Paul Bisaccia

The proposal is to bring the pianist Paul Bisaccia back to the Enfield Senior Center on October 15, 2017 at 2:00pm, the date has been tentatively reserved with both Paul and the Enfield Senior Center. Paul will keep his price of \$600 for the event. Emily will look for quotes at Falcetti and other music rental options in the area for the piano rental.

We can follow the same pricing as our last event with the tickets and perhaps begin selling tickets earlier to ensure a larger turn-out. Marguerite will work on editing the brochure from the last event and update the information. The Senior Center will provide refreshments as they did before.

Movies in the "Park"

The proposal would be to use Fermi as a site due to the movie licensing being site specific. Fermi would allow for an outdoor seating area as well as the auditorium due to inclement weather. The movies can be free of charge for families, or \$1.00 for admission and we can have a concession stand for refreshments to include soda, popcorn and candy. Emily and Damon have been looking at rental equipment for a screen/projector rental. The rental would cost \$499.00 each event. Shannon is pricing a movie screen

for the commission to purchase to have for future use, the cost would be around \$379.00. The event dates are tentative. This type of event could be done once a month, during the months of June, July and August or quarterly. There are also opportunities for an October Halloween movie event.

The cost would include the purchase of food to sell as concessions prior to any discounts received from companies.

Belly Dancing Class The proposal is set for a tentative date of March 23rd at 6:00pm at the Enfield Senior Center. Population: All ages. The event would provide Belly Dancing Classes to the Community free of charge. This class will provide beginner basics to novice. The participants will learn about the culture behind this style of dancing as well as learn and practice basic techniques. This will also serve as a platform for ECAC to begin/continue promoting drum circles as Belly Dancing will be a feature.

Cost: \$80.00 for Coined Hip Scarves which can be reused in the future for other classes and for drum circle.

ECAC Traveling Drum Circle

The proposed dates and times:

May 21st 4pm-8pm

June 25th 5-9pm

July 23 5-9pm

Aug 20 5-9pm

Sept 24th 4-8pm (potential for 3-9pm)

Locations would include Power Hollow Barn, Brainerd Park, Town Green, Collins Creamery, and Green Manor Park.

Proposal: An open forum for all wishing to participate or spectate to come and be a part of music being created in the moment. All participants are

encouraged to bring their own drum to the circle however ECAC will provide an Urban street style drum for people to use. Matty will set up and run the drum circle while Shannon leads bell dancing. Drum Circles have a history of drawing out Fire Performers as well. Working with collaboration with The Flaming Lotus (a local shop in Thompsonville) to help market the events.

Cost: \$150.00 for buckets, spray-paint, sticker logos and drumsticks, all reusable.

Shannon has a restaurant contact that is willing to donate buckets to us free of charge. They would need to be cleaned and spray painted and our logo applied.

Notes: Due to fire performers, we will need to have some sort of registration or someone who will be from the commission verifying performers proof of insurance when they arrive.

We will need to find out insurance requirements for holding events off premise such as Powder Hollow Barn and Collins Creamery. Also, In the event that we do have fire performers attending we need to find out if presence from local fire departments is needed and would there be a cost associated with the fire presence.

Many questions were raised regarding locations, fire performers, and commission member availability. It was agreed to table this event for further discussion and planning.

Cooking Classes

The proposed events would take place once a month during the 2017/2018 school year. The location would be either Fermi or JFK depending on the facility kitchen classrooms.

The event would offer cooking classes for community members once a month. Participants would learn different cooking techniques as well as different ethnic cuisine. Class themes include but not limited to Asian, Indian, classical French, Mexican, date night, animal lovers (focused on pet

treats), kid baskets, health cuisine, etc. Participants would pay a fee for the class, which would cover food cost and ServSafe Certification.

Cost: Food ServSafe certification, food cost

If approved by the commission Mary and Emily will tour the Fermi Home Economic Lab to review what equipment is available and if the kitchen is still up to code and usable for instruction. If that space does not work, they will look at alternate locations such as JFK.

Farm-To-Table Fundraiser

Proposed date: June 3rd, 2017 2pm-8pm, Location: Enfield Senior Center

Proposal: We bring together Enfield home cooks who share a passion of cooking. Together they will develop a multi-course meal, break into teams and then prepare the menu. This activity will build upon community relations, team building, and assist with ECAC branding. This will be a fundraiser and should be advertised through the paper, online, and with other organizations. Tickets will be sold in advance.

Cust: Upfront cost of food and any tableware rentals.

Notes: There are approximately 13 Enfield residents who would like to participate in this event, to include Officers of the Enfield Police Department. We would also like to invite a local newspaper to the event.

An application will need to be filed with the Building and Grounds Department. Currently the Date of June 3rd is available for this location.

Add-on discussion: It has been brought to our attention that if we have an event, we cannot sell alcohol, but can serve it. Further discussion followed this suggestion and it was decided that due to liability, alcohol would not be served.

The date was questioned with other board member's availability, other possible event dates will be researched.

Painting and Planting

Proposed date would be during the week of Enfield School Vacation April 10-14th. Location: Enfield Senior Center

Proposal: An activity date for Grandparents to have with their grandchildren. They would work together painting a terracotta pot. They will be given a bag of soil and some herb seeds (Basil, mint, etc.) Once the pot is dried they can plant their seeds. We can provide some easy to follow recipes (with ECAC logo on it) for them to follow once their herbs grow.

We can ask the Senior Center to provide refreshments.

Cost: Approximately \$250.00 for terracotta pots, paint, soil, and seeds.

Collaboration with the Enfield Garden Club and Easy Pickins Orchard were suggested.

Festival of Trees

Event is in December. Location: Enfield Public Library

Proposal: To continue partnership with Enfield Public Library. Supply an ECAC tree where visitors can take an ornament. Cater event with refreshments.

Cost: \$200 for refreshments. \$100.00 for new ECAC Button ornaments.

Notes: Approximately 120 ornaments were made and distributed this year. Food – juice boxes were a hit. Brownies, donuts, and cupcakes went the fastest. There were a lot of cookies left behind. We should prepare to have allergen signs next year.

Discussion: The question of selling ECAC ornaments came up when community members began asking where they could purchase them. Is this something we want to do? This will be discussed at a future meeting.

Also, there is a large supply of Christmas ornaments in our storage area from prior years, do we want to donate to other town

organizations/committees to use? This will be discussed at a future meeting.

Enfield Public Library Donation Requests

Information was distributed that was received from the Enfield Public Library featuring a variety of events that they would like to plan.

For Adult Programming:

The Elderly Brothers (musical performers) \$400

Meet John Adams or My Wife, Abigail (character actor) \$500

Tories, Spies, and Traitors: Divided Loyalties in Revolutionary Connecticut \$225

Growing Up in Connecticut (Connecticut Historical Society) \$225

For Children's Programming:

The Hampstead Stage presents: The Secret Garden (on April 13) \$550

Due to meeting time constraints, these events were tabled and will be discussed at a future meeting.

It was decided that the Board members would vote on the events tonight and the events that still had outstanding questions would be further discussed at a future meeting.

The events that were voted on, votes were unanimous all in favor and the budget is as follows:

Artists & Artisan's Festival (Previously approved) (Sept 2017) \$0

"Enfield Rocks" \$200.00 (May 2017) Co-sponsor

Torchlight Parade to include Krampus and Theater Workshops \$1000 (Oct, Nov, Dec 2017)

Paul Bisaccia \$1125 (October 2017) partner with the Senior Center

Belly Dancing \$100 (March 2017)

Painting and Planting \$250 (April 2017)

Festival of Trees \$200 refreshments, \$100 Logo buttons (Dec 2017)

The events that are still pending approval at the time of the meeting:

Drum Circles (May-Sept 2017)

Matt will contact the July 4th Celebration Committee to see if we can include an open Drum Circle in the schedule of events for the weekend celebration.

Cooking Classes (Sept 2017-June 2018)

Movies in the Park (throughout the year)

Farm to Table Fundraiser (June 2017)

Coracree, Janie Rothfield Band (dates being researched)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hamre, Secretary