

STRATFORD ARTS COMMISSION

Regular Meeting – May 13, 2015

MINUTES

The Stratford Arts Commission conducted a Regular meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 pursuant to notice duly posted.

Members Present:

Rich Fredette, Chair
Bruce Hirsch, Treasurer
Erin McLaughlin
Kathy Koperwhats
Lenny Kovalik (arrived 7:14 pm)
Ellen Cox
Lou DeCilio (Alternate)
Bill Franz (Alternate)
Margo Paquette, Secretary

Others Present:

Call to Order - Meeting called to order by Rich Fredette, Chair, at 7:10 pm.

Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting 04/08/15 & Special Meeting 4/30/15 – Lou DeCilio moved to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting 04/08/15 & the Special Meeting 4/30/15; seconded by Bruce Hirsch. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report – Bruce Hirsch, Treasurer, reported the balance of the commission's account is \$2.64.

Grant Writing Report – Rich Fredette will be meeting next week with Grants Writer, Christina Kazanas.

Fundraising Report/Updates/Events

- Rich Fredette reported that the Scottish Rite Masons will conduct an Executive Meeting and will forward to the commission available dates for use of their theater for a comedy night fundraising event.
- Erin McLaughlin has looked at various options and advised the commission that the Birdseye Municipal Complex would be the most suitable facility to stage a town wide talent show. She will continue to work to secure the facility and a date. The commission agreed that, once a date is selected, further discussion of details and particulars will be necessary.
- Rich Fredette suggested, and the commission discussed, the possibility of a monthly fundraising cocktail hour hosted by different venues and showcasing the works of local visual artists.
- The commission discussed the idea and benefits of an Arts Commission facebook page that could be utilized to publicize upcoming fundraisers and Arts Commission sponsored events.

Bruce Hirsch moved to appoint Erin McLaughlin to create a Stratford Arts Commission facebook page; seconded by Lou DeCilio. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business – No items

New Business – No items

Updates

- David Reed, President, The Stratford Stage Group, updated the commission on the efforts for Summer programming on the Theatre grounds. They are looking into staging options and grant opportunities.
- A representative of the Mighty Quinn Foundation shared with the commission that the foundation will be submitting the grant application in June.
- Lou DeCilio reported that the commission's expected budget was approved by the Town Council and will be effective July 1, 2015. He suggested that the commissioners re-familiarize themselves with the "draft budget" (distributed at the February Regular Meeting) to allow for discussion of allocation of funds and budgetary expenses for the upcoming fiscal year at the next Regular Meeting

Open Discussion on members' ideas, concerns, and future commission projects

- The commission discussed and agreed to have an Arts Commission tent at the Blues on the Beach event in July.
- Bruce Hirsch shared his concerns about the locks and lighting at the White House and the condition of the Theatre roof.

Adjournment – Bruce Hirsch moved to adjourn; seconded by Kathy Koperwhats. Motion carried unanimously at 8:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo Paquette, Secretary