

ENFIELD CULTURE & ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Monthly Meeting –February 2, 2021

Virtually via Windstream call at 6:30 pm

Present

Emily McIntosh, Damon Patnoe, Donna Hamre, Jason Neely, Emily Clifford, Joshua Hamre, Jennefer Ryan, Bob Cressotti, Kelly Hemmeler, Sam Nolan

Minutes from previous meeting accepted by Emily M., 2nd Damon

Chairperson's Remarks

Emily looked into the rules and found that she is able to make motions to accept the minutes.

Staff Liaison Remarks

There is a good amount of interest in the Paul Bisaccia concert series.

The ECAC approved funds for the library to purchase a new wall display for the musical instrument lending library check-out cards.

The Roots of Black Music virtual event is available online through the month of February. In March, the library will feature a musical Irish Duo. Events for April and May are still being planned.

70-100 people participated in the grab & go craft kits.

Old Business-

Contracts for Paul Bisaccia have been sent out. There will be a series of four concerts, the first will be held on Saturday 2/13 from 2:00-4:00pm. The concert will be shown via Zoom. ECAC will need to set up an upgraded Zoom account. We will be able to record the concert and have a longer time frame available. Concerts for the Spring, Fall, and Winter season dates are TBD. Advice from the library staff who run virtual programs are to make sure the event is set up where participants are automatically muted upon entry to the call and that only Paul can be unmuted. We will also need to ensure the setting to eliminate background noise is not activated, by adjusting the setting we will not be able to hear the music while he is speaking. A sound check with Paul Bisaccia will be done prior to the event. He approved the recording of the concert.

Emily and Joshua spoke about having artists such as Sage King and others featured in an event. We could offer 15-20 cars as well as livestreaming the event. There is a concern regarding the sound system that we had chosen for purchase with order for the movies in the park set up. Joshua will look into the speakers that were selected to ensure that they would be suitable for a variety of uses to fit our needs.

Emily C. will reach out to other surrounding towns who are running outdoor movies to see how they are handling the sound and to see if they have any suggestions of what has/or hasn't worked.

New Business-

Emily M. is working on the budget for the request for funding which is due ASAP with a deadline in March.

Events that we will be adding to the budget proposal are, Family Day Sidewalk Chalk contest. Jennefer mentioned that during KITE's May "Week of the Young Child" event they will be doing a sidewalk chalk pick-up. It was suggested that KITE complete a Mini Grant Application for ECAC to assist in the purchasing of chalk for their program.

Joshua mentioned possibly organizing a symposium or establishing a forum for those within the arts community to discuss the impact that the pandemic has had on their Art programs. Emily M. suggested that we look more into this when the COVID restrictions lift. We could use OHP High St location as a front of the house event per our previous agreement.

Emily C. suggested putting together a survey to the community on "How has COVID impacted you and are you interested in learning more about resources". This may help us to reach our desired 20yr-40yr demographic.

ECAC doesn't have heavy foot traffic and will need to work on marketing it to get it in front of the community of people we are hoping to reach.

It was suggested that we invite artists to do live/virtual performances that would be funded by ECAC. Josh suggested that ECAC can set the parameters that we are interested in working with. We could do an event once a month, with the suggested fee of \$250 per event, including the summer months. The events can start off as virtual but when the weather improves and COVID restrictions are reduced we can switch the events to a live performance.

During the virtual performance, we can also mention the Library's Musical Lending Library. Zoom would have the ability to record the events. We could livestream the event on Tuesday night, then show the recorded version on Saturday night via the Facebook page.

For the purposes of establishing a budget, we are using the monthly series as a starting point for budget purposes. Jason confirmed that \$250 per performance is not outside the realm of normalcy for a live performance. There was some concern about how many people would be engaged in the long term. Josh talked about opening it up to other artists from outside of Enfield.

The goal is to move away from Live virtual meetings but can move to an outdoor location at the library, Brainard Park, Hazardville, the High School, Felician Sisters Lawn and to tie in local businesses such as Collins Creamery and the Smoothie Shop to fuse local attraction with the artists.

Emily M. will prepare the budget and present a monthly concert or time with the artist. A virtual or in-person event at local businesses.

We could also invite solo artists or musicians from the school to perform. Bob Cressotti can contact Mark Rappucci from the Enfield Public Schools Music department to get his feedback to see if it is something he would be interested in.

We will also include mini grants into the budget \$500, allowing for 1 per month.

We will be exploring virtual cooking classes. The Enfield Adult Education is offering a program for children on cooking. Can ECAC do scholarships for kids to participate in the programs?

We discussed a partnership with local artists at the schools for murals. The Beautification committee has a list of buildings in town that could be possible sites for the murals.

We also discussed a virtual/in person tutorial series covering many art forms: paint night, cooking, pottery and poetry. With plans of including the Poet Laureate in some of the events.

The events that will be included in the budget:

Sidewalk Chalk for Family Day

Torchlight Parade

Paul Bisaccia for the 2022 year

Women's Club Art Show

Festival of Trees

Virtual/Tutorial classes of All arts

Monthly concerts

Renewal of our Zoom accounts

Mini grants

Last years budget was very effective, Emily will follow the same outline.

The Zoom Account upgrade will cost \$350. ECAC will be using the Zoom platform for the Paul Bisaccia concerts as well as other virtual shows. Joshua made the motion, Damon 2nd. All voted in favor of the purchase of the upgraded Zoom account in the amount of \$350.

Miscellaneous-

none

Meeting was adjourned at 7:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hamre, Secretary