

ENFIELD CULTURE & ARTS COMMISSION

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Via Zoom 6:30 pm

Present

Emily McIntosh, Damon Patnoe, Donna Hamre, Joshua Hamre, Emily Clifford, Jason Neely, Jennefer Ryan, Steph MacGillivray, Steve Bielenda

Prior minutes approved by Damon and 2nd by Jennefer

Chairperson's Remarks

Next month's meeting will include reviewing and updating our bi-laws and voting in new officers. Nominations for positions are welcome.

Treasurer's Report

Our current balance is \$37,727

Staff Liaison Remarks

Received 1 new mini grant application. Budget deliberations will start next Wednesday.

Old Business:

Email from the town manager regarding our photo contest. Ellen was not going to attend tonight's meeting but she had concerns about how the calendars would be distributed and had a concern of the expense being a waste of taxpayer's money. It was explained that we are the hosts of the Torchlight Parade where the calendars can be distributed to the many attendees. We will be giving the calendars away for free for the first year and possibly selling in future years on a pre-order basis. Emily C. explained this project was modeled after the Manchester/Bolton Chamber of Commerce. Jennefer presented a new printing quote for \$1900.

The calendar addresses our efforts of marketing ECAC and showcasing the talents of the town for the investment cost of the printing. It's got a pretty good chance of return as far as getting ECAC's name out in the community.

Emily M., Damon and Emily C. spoke to many residents at the Women's club art show, many serious photographers and hobbyists were excited about the project. The winners that are chosen can display their art work at the library. The photo submitted has to be taken in Enfield. Each person can submit up to 5 photos. Submissions will include the name of the file, title of photo, location of photo. They photos would be emailed to the ECAC email: ECAC.contact@gmail.com. There will be 13 winners- cover page, 12 months. This event will reach every demographic and age group. A reception will be held at the library. ECAC will invite

the town manager and town council to hand out the awards. It will be a great press opportunity. We have already voted that we are going to move forward with the project. All voted in favor of moving forward again. Emily C., Emily M. and Jason will test the JOT form from different devices to be sure it works. They will work with Jason for the town website uploads, Jennefer will upload to social media.

Re-evaluation of our budget that may be trimmed. The summers concert series at the Farmer's market. The cooking, art, history and movement classes and the ZOOM renewal fee will all be eliminated from the budget request. We will have access to Microsoft Teams for our meetings. We have a robust fund balance that we have been spending down from two full boards ago where the fund balance was over \$60k. We gifted \$25k to OHP and our planned in-person events had to be paused due to COVID. We have not been able to spend down our budget over the past 2 years as expected.

Ellen is very supportive of our mini-grant program, Movies in the park, Torchlight Parade, Festival of Trees and the Family Day event. We will invite Ellen to present to ECAC vision with ECAC for transparency. With that information we can weave that into what we are doing with ECAC.

The town Poet Laureate position is coming to an end. We have the option of ending Elizabeth's 2-year appointment which expires July 1st or giving her a 1-year extension to continue her work as the town's Poet Laureate. She has been doing in-classroom readings and book signings at Hazardville Memorial School and is well received. All voted in favor of offering her the 1-year extension. She will be her own representative and promote her own events and publish her own press releases. ECAC can share her event information on social media.

New Business

2 mini grants were received over the past month. On 4/7/22, Kristen from the Children's Department at the Enfield Public Library submitted a grant application for the Traveling Lantern Theater Performance of "Camp Ocean" the contractual fees for the performance are \$495.00. This would bring a theater arts experience to children ages 4+. All voted in favor of the performance and awarding the mini grant in the amount of \$495 to the Enfield Public Library for the performance.

The 2nd application was received from Olivia Mas, a 3rd year student at the University of Hartford for her "How We Heal" pop-up art gallery for art created throughout the pandemic. The gallery event will be held at the Enfield Public Library July 14-23, 2022. The opening night reception will be held on Friday, July 15th. The budget summary is \$500.00. All voted in favor of the event.

Joshua shared that the JFK Theater group will be performing the musical, Moana Jr. this weekend.

Miscellaneous: none

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 6:30 via Zoom.
Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Hamre, Secretary