

# MIDDLETOWN COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

Minutes of February 24, 2010

## Present

Joyce Kirkpatrick  
Rob Resnikoff  
Barbara Arafah  
Frank Kuan  
Jennifer Hawkins Lecce  
Charlotte McCoid, left at 9:05p  
Kisha Michael  
Michele Lau  
David Bauer, left at 8:20p  
Patricia Evans  
Richard Kamins  
Fran Ganguli

## Absent

Bob Santangelo  
Lee Godburn

## Also Attending

Stephan Allison, Coordinator

## CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joyce Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. at the Municipal Building, Room 208, in Middletown, CT.

## PUBLIC SESSION

None held.

## MINUTES OF January 27, 2010

Bauer made a motion to accept the minutes of January 27, 2010, and Resnikoff seconded this.

Discussion: Kirkpatrick made one addition: Under New Business a) Grants Panel Selection, last sentence should read "...and dates were confirmed - Sept. 15 deadline for activities starting on or after Dec. 1; Jan. 15 deadline for activities starting on or after April 1 and March 15 for activities starting on or after June 1."

Ganguli made one addition: under attendance Joyce Arafah should read Barbara Arafah.

Motion carried. Ganguli abstained.

## REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Kirkpatrick reminds commissioners of Arts Advocacy Day to be held in Hartford on March 24<sup>th</sup> and that it would be important for commissioners to be involved in the event.

Kuan made a motion to move item 7a Grant application discussion under New Business up in the agenda. Kamins seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

## NEW BUSINESS

### GRANT APPLICATIONS DISCUSSION

Kirkpatrick leads discussion with review of recommendations by grant panels for Categories 2 & 3 that were held on Monday and Tuesday and reviewed estimated amounts to be granted and scores given by panels. Discussion was held.

Kuan made a motion to grant Artists for World Peace an award amount of \$2,000 and McCoid seconded this. Motion carried 8-2 in favor, with Lecce, Resnikoff voting against.

Kamins made a motion not to award a grant to the Collective Consciousness Theater and Lecce seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

Kuan made a motion not to award a grant to the CT Christian Academy and Ganguli seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

Resnikoff made a motion to grant Connecticut Heritage Productions (CHP) an award amount of \$1,500 and Lecce seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

Kuan made a motion to grant Luther Ridge Art Gallery an award amount of \$377 with the condition funds only be used for new display cases and to not accept the other grant application also requested by Luther Ridge at Middletown Art Gallery and Arts & Music Programs. Ganguli seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

Kamins made a motion to grant Nancy Goodrich an award amount of \$500 with the stipulation funds be used for the project but not for equipment purchase(s) including camera(s) and Lecce seconded this. Motion carried with Kuan and Arafah abstaining.

McCoid made a motion to grant Kaleidoscope Arts an award amount of \$1,000 and Kuan seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

Resnikoff made a motion not to award a grant to the Middle City Stage Company and Lecce seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

McCoid made a motion to grant Middlesex Community College an award amount of \$800 and Kuan seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

Resnikoff made a motion to grant Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council an award amount of \$5,000 and Lecce seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

McCoid made a motion to grant Middletown Symphonic Band an award amount of \$800 and Kuan seconded this.

Discussion held.

McCoid amended the motion to read as follows: The MCA grants the Middletown Symphonic Band an award amount of \$1000 and Kuan seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

Kuan made a motion to grant Russell Library an award amount of \$1000 and McCoid seconded this. Motion carried with Kamins abstaining.

Kuan made a motion to accept decisions made on all organizations listed on Page 3 of handout as is and Kamins seconded this. Motion carried with Arafah abstaining.

### **Applicants and Awards (Page 3)**

Ryan Woods Autism Foundation	\$0.00
Emily Troll	\$0.00
Wesleyan University Center for the Arts	\$800.00

Wesleyan University Center for Film Studies	\$0.00
1 Family Incorporated	\$0.00
Tony Donovan, Photographer	\$500.00
Greater Middletown Concert Association	\$1,000.00
Luther Ridge Art Gallery (see earlier decision)	\$377.00
Russell Library	\$0.00
Teachers at Independent Day School	\$0.00

Resnikoff made a motion to suspend MCA decisions on Category 1 grants until March 2010 meeting and requested staff to investigate the legality of dedicating \$5k from the Shenker fund and using it for this year's arts funding. Kamins seconded this.

**Discussion followed.**

Resnikoff amended the motion to read as follows: The MCA suspends its decision on Category 1 grants until March 2010 meeting and requests staff to research available revenue accounts. Kamins seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**a) Budget Report**

No Report

**b) Staff Report/Program Update**

**Arts Stakeholders Group**

Allison reports that he has received approval from Bill Oliver to continue research on the New Haven site and pursue the people who have put it together.

**Arts & Creative Industries Council (Chamber of Commerce)**

No Report

**C) Conflict of Interest Statements**

No Report

**d) Other**

No Report

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a) Public Art Committee**

**Brochure-Digital Photos**

No Report

**MCAAAA Update**

Kirkpatrick and Allison confirm that the artwork is framed and currently in the Arts Office waiting to be displayed.

**b) Planning & Projects Committee**

**Public Art Benches**

No Report

**Arts Advocacy Day Awards**

Kirkpatrick and Allison confirmed proclamations for awards would be drafted by Lecce.

**c) Other**

Allison reports that Kids Arts registration begins on Monday, March 1, 2010.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**a) Mayor's Ball**

Event scheduled for March 6, 2010. Patron donations are welcome if people are unable to attend.

**b) Greater Middletown Chorale Community discussion**

Kirkpatrick informs the group of a discussion about Elijah to be held at the Hubbard Room Russell Library Thursday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. refreshment hour and discussion to follow at 7.

**c) Other**

Arafeh announces Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> is United Nations International Women's Day in Middletown with an event to be held at the Russell Library from 5-7:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Kuan made a motion to adjourn; Kamins seconded it. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting concluded at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kisha Michael  
Secretary