

MIDDLETOWN COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

Minutes of March 24, 2010

Present

Joyce Kirkpatrick
Rob Resnikoff
Barbara Arafeh
Frank Kuan
Charlotte McCoid, arrived at 7:14p
Kisha Michael
Michele Lau
Richard Kamins
Lee Godburn
Bob Santangelo
David Bauer

Absent

Patricia Evans
Jennifer Hawkins Lecce
Fran Ganguli

Also Attending

Stephan Allison, Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joyce Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. at the Municipal Building, Room 208, in Middletown, CT.

PUBLIC SESSION

None held.

MINUTES of February 24, 2010

Kamins made a motion to accept the minutes of February 24, 2010, and Santangelo seconded this. Santangelo and Godburn abstained.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Kirkpatrick informs the group of her attendance to the Middletown Public School's art exhibition held at the Zilkha Gallery, Wesleyan University. Chair shares with the group a quote from Chorus America eVoice, March 11, 2010 by Ben Cameron, program director of arts at the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; "The Arts, whatever they do, whenever they call us together, invite us to look at our fellow human being with generosity and curiosity... If we have ever needed that capacity in human history, we need it now." Also reported by Kirkpatrick are thank you letters from recent grant recipients along with letters from non-granted recipients. Discussion followed.

OLD BUSINESS

a) Budget Report

No Report

b) Staff Report/Program Update

Arts Stakeholders Group

Allison reports that he attended a meeting 3/24/10 with Bill Oliver and The O'Donnell Company. He states that based on this meeting they have started the process and look forward to the completion of the project.

Arts & Creative Industries Council (Chamber of Commerce)

Meeting held on March 11th at The Buttonwood Tree. Arafeh mentions her attendance to the meeting.

c) Conflict of Interest Statements

Kirkpatrick reports that all have been received and recommends the item be removed from the agenda.

d) Other

No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Public Art Committee

Kirkpatrick informs the group of her conversation with Commissioner Evans and their plans to attend the Robin Price lecture held on March 25th.

Brochure-Digital Photos

No Report

MCAAAA Update

Kirkpatrick announces the MCAAAA award is hanging in City Hall.

b) Planning & Projects Committee

Public Art Benches

No Report

Arts Advocacy Day Awards

Godburn informs the group that the Arts Advocacy Awards Day events are planned. Allison states that the event is listed in the April Arts calendar, scheduled for Monday, April 19th, 5-6:30 p.m. Allison reminds the group that the proclamations are being prepared by Lecce.

c) Other

No report

NEW BUSINESS

Kirkpatrick leads discussion by asking Commissioners to state their conflict of interest with presenting organizations to be potentially granted. Discussion followed.

*Resnikoff made a motion to move agenda item 7b up and to have item 7a follow in discussion and Kuan seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

a) Transfer of Revenue Funds for Category 1 Grants

Discussion was held on whether or not to transfer revenue funds for category 1 applicants. Godburn presented questions to review past grantees for organizational and project support. Council members Bauer and Santangelo shared their input. Discussion followed. No action taken.

b) Category 1-3 Grants Decisions

*Resnikoff made a preliminary motion to grant Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council an award amount of \$1,000 and Kamins seconded this. Motion carried with McCoid recused.

*Kamins made a preliminary motion to grant Oddfellows an award amount of \$5,000 and McCoid seconded this. Motion carried with Kuan and Resnikoff recused.

*Bauer made a preliminary motion to grant ARTFARM an award amount of \$7,500 and Santangelo seconded this. Motion carried with Michael and Kuan recused.

*Resnikoff made a preliminary motion to grant NEAR, Inc. an award amount of \$10,000 and Kamins seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

*Bauer made a preliminary motion to grant The Greater Middletown Chorale an award amount of \$5,000 with the recommendation to request more community outreach ideas from their organization and Resnikoff seconded this. Motion carried with Kirkpatrick recused.

Discussion followed regarding the preliminary round of motions before final motions were made for awards.

*Kamins made a motion to grant Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council an award amount of \$1,000 and Resnikoff seconded this. Motion carried with McCoid recused.

*Kamins made a motion to grant Oddfellows Playhouse an award amount of \$5,500 and Bauer seconded this. Motion carried with Resnikoff and Kuan recused.

*Bauer made a motion to grant ARTFARM an award amount of \$9,000 and Santangelo seconded this. Michael and Kuan recused. Resnikoff voted nay.

*Resnikoff amended the motion to read as follows: The MCA grants ARTFARM an award amount of \$9,000 with inclusion to suggest broadening their board and Kamins seconded this. Motion carried with Kuan and Michael recused.

*Godburn made a motion to grant NEAR,Inc. an award amount of \$10,023 and McCoid seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

*Bauer made a motion to grant The Greater Middletown Chorale an award amount of \$5,000 and Santangelo seconded this. Motion carried with Kirkpatrick recused.

*Bauer made a motion to accept \$30,523 as total amount to be given in grants for Category 1 and Godburn seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

Applicants and Awards: Category 1

Greater Middletown Chorale	\$5,000
NEAR,Inc.	\$10,023
Oddfellows Playhouse	\$5,500
ARTFARM	\$9,000
Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council	\$1,000

c) Other

Resnikoff suggests an addition for the next agenda to be a discussion on any revisions the Commission might want to make in this new Grant Policy, now that the process has had its first run-through.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) **Category 1-3 Grants Schedule** - Attached to packet.
- b) **191914 Ministries Grant Report** - Attached to packet.
- c) **Letter to the Editor 3/17/10-Hartford Courant** - Attached to packet.
- d) **Other**

Kamins informs the group of the Greater Middletown Chorale’s Elijah lecture held at the Russell Library, he states that the meeting was enjoyable and well attended. Arafah shares with the group that she attended the Arts Advocacy event in Hartford and further shares her contacts made with politicians and administrators. Kamins reminds the group of ARTFARM’s Sonnet Slam scheduled for Thursday, April 8th, 7p.m. at KidCity.

Adjournment

Kamins made a motion to adjourn; Resnikoff seconded it. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting concluded at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kisha Michael
Secretary

*any member recused left the room and was not involved in discussion or voting on that applicant