



## MINUTES

### OXFORD CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION October 9th, 2013

The Oxford Cultural Arts Commission met in regular session in the Town Hall, Room 3, 486 Oxford Road, Oxford, Connecticut 06478.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Martin Earley called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Commissioners Present:**

Chairman Martin Earley  
Vice Chairwoman Cynthia Soucy  
Treasurer Elaine Shown  
Secretary Patricia Pace  
Nine Mile Players-Ashleigh Smith

##### **Commissioners Absent:**

None

##### **Audience of Citizen**

Dorothy Peebles-Pelley (Gallery of Art Director)  
Samantha Longo (President of the Poetry Club)

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Cynthia Soucy-resignation

#### **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Minutes of September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013 were read.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE AND BILLS**

Resignation letter from Acting Vice Chairman, Cynthia Soucy, effective October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013  
Correspondence from Vice Chairman Soucy pertaining to passwords, keys, a file containing mentoring information.

The Connecticut Society of Portrait Artists-October 2013-postcard.

"City Kids Got Skillz"-Teen Performance, University of Bridgeport

#### **ACTING CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chairman Earley submitted correspondence/proposal from John Ferrara in regards to a program entitled "Consider The Source," a description of a master class to be offered by John Ferrara. Some of the class titles include:

Mixing Music from the East and West," "Having your Own Sound," "Exploring Modern Sonic Elements without using Computers," in addition to others.

The fees range from \$800.00 to \$1,500.00. Discussion was had pertaining to admission fees versus a donation for the class/classes. Art Director Peebles-Pelley recommended that Martin should engage it now and aim for scheduling of the master classes for a time frame near the GOA show, scheduled for May, 15<sup>th</sup>

through the 18<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Earley will submit the information to Kathleen, the grant writer, for review. (see attached)

Martin also told the Commission of an original musical he was working on who's subject matter concerned "the Night Witches," Russian women pilot fighters. This original musical idea and the proposal of the master classes was very exciting news for the Commission. We look forward to such unique events in the future.

#### **ACTING VICE CHAIR'S REPORT**

Vice chairman Soucy submitted her resignation to the Commission, effective October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013. In addition to her resignation, she provided the Commission with passwords for Google mail, Go Daddy, Constant Contact, the Grange key and a letter she had prepared for Amy Cote regarding our discontinued use of the Grange.

Vice Chair Soucy suggested two letters be written, one to Selectman Temple and one to Helen at the Public Works, thanking them for giving us space at the Public Works building.

Ms. Soucy also indicated that the kiosk color was "flat white," a common and easy enough color to remember. Ms. Soucy also made a video on a disk that she thought might be helpful in seeking volunteers to join the commission. She turned in her laptop computer which belonged to the Commission, in addition to keys for the Commission's mailbox.

We wish Commission Soucy the best in her future endeavors.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

No new information was added to the last report presented by Commissioner Shown. Commissioner Shown did inform the Commission that she had attempted to phoned Jim to ask for print outs, although he was not in and did not return the call. Treasurer Shown wanted it noted that the 2012/2013 account had to be put in the municipal account for access.

#### **NINE MILE PLAYERS REPORT**

Tabled.

#### **STATUS, DISCUSSION, AND PLANNING FOR ONGOING COMMISSION PROJECTS:**

**Gallery of Art:** Art Director Dorothy Peebles-Pelley presented and read a very detailed status report for the 2014 GOA Showcase. (please see attached report and expense budget) Dorothy also informed us that she had spoken to Ms. Soucy regarding the use of her mother's prints in future OCAC events.

**The Connecticut Society of Portrait Artists Showcase Exhibition:** October 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>, with a closing reception and People Choice Award on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013 from 7 to 9, at the Town Hall. We are thrilled to have this exhibit in the Town Hall. We look forward to the closing reception and to presenting the Society with an award from the OCAC.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Pace will contact Valley Arts Council to renew our dues, as suggested by the Art Director. Commissioner Pace will also revisit access to the internet for the OCAC by writing to Selectman Temple. The issue of the website and Facebook page was also revisited and it was decided that all commissioners should have access to post events and news.

**The Connecticut Society of Portrait Artists Showcase Exhibition:** October, 2014. Director Peebles-Pelley informed us that the Society has made arrangements and have booked the space for a 2014 showcase. Great news, Dorothy!

Dorothy would like to pass out postcards at the Portrait Society's reception for the GOA Showcase scheduled in May, 2014.

**Nine Mile Players:**

**Wizard of Oz/ Red Lantern:** Commissioner Smith told us of exciting news she was contemplating, a performance of an original play entitled "The Red Lantern," as well as a performance of the Wizard of Oz. We look forward to all future endeavors and productions by Commissioner Smith and the Nine Mile Players. They play a very important part to the OCAC. Thank you, Ashleigh, for your hard work and dedication.


Commissioner Smith also encouraged that the Commission schedule art classes, and spoke of a "Paint a Wine Glass" session, and classes along this line, with advertising on sites such as Groupon. Commissioner Smith would like to get summer children performance workshops started.


**Poetry Night:** Samantha Longo, a high school senior, has started at Poetry Club. There is a poetry night scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013, from 7 to 9 pm. The OCAC would like to sponsor a guest reader for this event. There was discussion concerning starting a Poetry Series at the high school auditorium, which would include poetry workshops. Commissioner Pace plans to submit a proposal to the grant writer for such a program. We are thrilled that Sam has started a poetry club and support her endeavor to have the OCAC sponsor a poetry series. Way to go, Sam.

There have been many exciting ideas discussed in recent weeks. This has all been extremely encouraging and we look forward to a great 2013/2014 season.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41.

  
Secretary Patricia Pace  
10-16-13

13 OCT 16 PM 4:23  
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
  
TOWN CLERK