



CHESHIRE PERFORMING FINE ARTS COMMITTEE

1220 Waterbury Road • Cheshire, Connecticut 06410

Phone 203.272.ARTS (2787) FAX 203.699-8857

CHESHIRE PERFORMING AND FINE ARTS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 16, 2014, 7:30 PM

Artsplace

1220 Waterbury Road

Cheshire, CT 06410

Committee Members Present: Ophelia Frazier, Ann Hearn, Joyce Karklel,
Donna Lodynsky, Denise Lohr, Donna Myjak, Jackie Townes

Others Present: Donna Mark (President, Friends of CPFA/Artsplace, Inc.)
Patti Flynn-Harris (Representative, Cheshire Town Council)
Joan Pilarczyk (Director, Artsplace)

Absent: Ramona Burkey (Director, Cheshire Public Library)
Heather Kiesling (Committee member)
Maricele Riemann (Committee member)
Hilary Rutberg (Membership Chair, Friends of CPFA/Artsplace, Inc.)
Jill Veiga (potential committee member)

1. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM - A quorum was present for this meeting.

2. CALL TO ORDER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chairwoman Lodynsky called meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. WELCOME REMARKS - Donna Lodynsky, Chairperson.

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION – Ms. Lodynsky noted that she and Ms. Mark had attended the Bovano Craft Show, held on August 9, 2014, where 30 vendors and over 1000 attendees enjoyed the booths and raffles. Ms. Diane Calabro won the raffle prize. Donations to CPFA/Artsplace totaled \$72.00. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Townes Made a motion: I move that we donate the \$72.00 from Bovanofest into our scholarship fund. Ms. Myjak seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Ms. Lodynsky expressed her thanks to Ms. Robin McCahill and her assistant Aya Suarez who spent the entire afternoon attracting attention, with her larger than life size puppet of a bird, to passersby to the show. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Townes made a motion: I move that we present a stipend in the amount of \$100.00 to Robin McCahill and \$63.00 to Aja Suarez for their services at Bovanofest 2014 to be taken from the CPFA escrow account at the Friends of CPFA/Artsplace. Seconded by Ms. Lohr.





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Ms. Lodynsky read out loud a resignation letter from committee member Heather Kiesling. She thanked her in absentia for all of her hard work and camaraderie in the past year.

Ms. Frazier invited committee members and Cheshire residents to the Cheshire Garden Club annual luncheon to be held at the Aqua Turf in Southington on Wednesday, December 3, 2014. Tickets are \$38.00 per person.

5. APPROVAL of July 15, 2014 Minutes

The following are corrections to the July Minutes:

- a. 14.d. should read "Two awning...".
- b. 10.b. Should read "A shadow puppet workshop was discussed..."

Ms. Lohr made a motion to accept the July 15, 2014 minutes with corrections, Ms. Hearn seconded, and the motion passed with one abstention.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT – Ophelia Frazier

- a. Ms. Frazier reviewed the latest statement and answered questions. She noted that the finances are on target.

A motion was made by Ms. Frazier to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Ms. Myjak. The Motion passed.

7. SECRETARY'S REPORT – Donna Myjak

- a. Ms. Myjak read out loud a thank you card from Denise and Gary Lohr, thanking Artsplace and the Friends of Artsplace for providing the drawing class for veterans. They thanked Mr. Tony Ruggiero for conducting the class.

8. LIBRARY DIRECTOR REPORT – No report.

9. ARTSPLACE REPORT – Joan Pilarczyk

- a. Ms. Pilarczyk noted that Fall semester enrolment numbers are down by 60 students from 2013 statistics.
- b. An enrichment program was held at Artsplace for Cheshire Town employees. Ten people attended the first session and sixteen more are scheduled for the next session. Attendees took art classes in different art disciplines.
- c. Banners are in the process of being ordered and information will be forthcoming.
- d. A new Xerox machine has been installed in the main office.
- e. Ms. Pilarczyk recommended that a new sign be contracted for the front of the building with lighting that will be easier to read by the public. She showed some proposed designs.





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- f. Online registrations are forth coming as soon as some technical issues are addressed concerning the process and some more training is conducted for staff members.
- g. Ms. Pilarczyk updated the committee on the Sean Speliades commemorative sculpture which is being created by his students under the direction of Robin McCahill. Discussion ensued about reimbursing Ms. McCahill and her assistant Aja Suarez for the time they have committed to planning, organizing and coordinating a teen workshop for developing this memorial project.

Ms. Karklel made a motion: I move that Robin McCahill be reimbursed for her time in developing the Sean Speliades memorial at the rate 3.5 hours x \$35.00 = \$122.50 and her assistant Aja Suarez be paid for her participation at the rate of 3.5 hours x \$10.50 = \$36.75.

- h. “Michaela’s Garden” Program has been enhanced by June Webster who painted flowers on the sign for the garden to highlight it for members of the public.

Ms. Frazier made a motion: I move that we appropriate \$125.00 from the CPFA Escrow account to June Webster as honorarium for making the “Michaela’s Garden” sign. Ms. Hearn seconded the motion and the motion passed.

10. Friends of CPFA/Artsplace, Inc. – Donna Mark

- a. The 12th Annual Author’s Event will take place at the Cheshire Parks and Recreation building on South Main Street, on September 30, 2014, at 6:00PM. The guest author is Suzanne Palmieri (Hayes). Her books include “Empire Girls” and “The Witch of Little Italy”. The proceeds support the Art Heals Program and other arts programs.
- b. The puppet show “The Pirate, the Princess and the Pea” performed by members of the Crabgrass Puppet Theatre took place on Sunday, September 14, 2014, at 2:00PM, upstairs in Artsplace. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all. The show was free to the public. A “shadow puppet workshop” was well attended by participating children after the event.

11. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Ms. Lodynsky and Ms. Mark took part as representatives of CPFA/Artsplace and Friends of CPFA/Artsplace at the Cheshire Fall Festival on September 6, 2014 at Bartlem Park. The Cheshire Public Library and Friends of Cheshire Public Library and CPFA Artsplace and Friends of CPFA Artsplace shared a booth this year.





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- b. January 6th 2015 was the date chosen by committee members for the filming of a CPFA meeting at Cheshire Town Hall, if possible, as a quorum was unable to be reached for the proposed December 16, 2014 date suggested by the Town Manager's office.
- c. Ms. Mark noted that she had lined up a local dance group to perform excerpts, from the Nutcracker Ballet, sometime in November. The best dates were determined to be November 9th or the 16th. Ms. Mark will discuss the dates with the dance group's director and further plans will be finalized at the next committee meeting.
- d. Ms. Petela from Cheshire Parks and Recreation sent the committee a report from the summer theatre camp that had been held at Artsplace. The play had been "Mulan JR". Ms. Petela made some suggestions for improvements to the facility for future such endeavors.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Ms. Pilarczyk encouraged committee members to consider a Press Subcommittee to help with Artsplace publicity.
- b. Committee members were encouraged to prepare for the upcoming holiday season by taking part again this year in three programs which have been well received in the past, namely, the Pajama and Book project, the Giving Tree, which provides art supplies for Cheshire children through the Cheshire Social Services Department, and donations for the Cheshire Food Bank.
- b. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at Artsplace at 7:30PM.

13. ADJOURNMENT

*Ms. Townes made a motion to adjourn; Ms. Karklel seconded the Motion.
Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:22 P.M.*

Respectfully submitted by

Agnes Wnuk

