Committee Members Present:
Bob Averack (arr. 7:50 p.m.)
Nancy Burt
Nancy Bussmann
Ophelia Frazier
Roxsolana Gordon
Donna Lodynsky
Denise Lohr
Hilary Rutberg
Jackie Townes

Committee Members Absent:
Patricia Pfurr

Others Present:
Joan Pilarczyk, Artsplace Director
Pam Averack, Cheshire Youth Theatre
Sandy Petela, Deputy Director, Parks & Rec

1. Determination of Quorum
A quorum was present for this meeting.

2. Call to Order and Salute to the Flag
Chairwoman Lodynsky called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Welcome and Remarks – Donna Lodynsky, Chairwoman
After welcoming everyone, Ms. Lodynsky announced several calendar items:
- A Women’s Creativity Seminar at Quinnipiac University on Saturday, February 20.
- An art exhibit of the works of Artsplace students Doris Rogan and Liz Scott at the Orange Public Library, with a reception on February 4.
She also thanked the Committee for handling activities in her absence.

4. Public Communications
There were no public communications.

5. Approval of November 17 and December 8, 2009, Minutes
Corrections to the November 17 minutes were proposed as follows:
- Item 5 title, change “September 15” to “October 20.”
- Item 11a, change “Mr. Angelo” to “Mr. Michelangelo.”
Ms. Burt made a motion to accept the corrections, Ms. Gordon seconded, and the motion was unanimously accepted.
A correction to the December 8 minutes was proposed as follows:
• Add “Beth Cressy” under “Others Present.”

Ms. Bussman made a motion to accept the December 8 minutes with no corrections, Ms. Lohr seconded, and the motion was unanimously accepted.

6. Treasurers’s Report – Ophelia Frazier
Ms. Frazier did not have the January budget report available, but based on the December report, the Artplace budget is on target, with approximately 40% of the budget spent.

7. Secretary’s Report – Roxie Gordon
Condolence cards were sent to Donna Lodynsky and Liz Augustine.

8. Artsplace Report – Joan Pilarczyk

Winter Session Enrollment: In the current Winter session, 28 classes are running and 3 are on hold. Total student count is approximately 205; this number is low compared to last Winter, yet staff is still very busy. Approximately 60 people attended the recent Open House on January 10 and a few signed up for classes. The next Clothesline Art Show may be combined with an Open House.

Greeting Card Project: The new Town Hall copier was used to print samples of holiday cards that were distributed to all town departments, seven other Cheshire facilities, and interested potential clients to advertise this revived program. Nick Poccia was a great help working with the new copier. The Senior Center received the last batch of cards, and a “thank you” was received from one recipient. Artsplace has a wonderful volunteer shepherding this program.

Original Works/Exchange Account: The Exchange Account will be used to purchase “Artsplace” aprons to be used by teachers while working at Artsplace; aprons will be used for the first time during this year’s Artsday.

Kensett: The painting has been moved to the house of a member of Friends for winter safekeeping. The framing needs to be completed; cost of materials is anticipated to be approximately $600-$800, which may be covered by the gift account. Discussion ensued regarding cost of the framing and ancillary items (e.g., metal “plaque” for frame, acrylic “take one” box for Kensett flyers).

Ms. Burt made a motion to spend an amount not to exceed $1,000 from the Gift Account (General Purposes); Ms. Frazier seconded, and the motion was unanimously accepted.

Arts Award: The annual award is planned to be presented the same night as the presentation of the Kensett painting to the Town, Tuesday, May 11, during the Town Council meeting; CPFA will then hold its meeting that night also.
Old Business: For the next Holiday party, it was agreed that attendees will be asked to pay $10 towards cost of food.

FY 2010-2011 Building Request – Public Works Budget: A “wish list” of building improvement projects for Artsplace was submitted to the Public Works Department at their request. Requested projects included: a hard-wired smoke alarm system (estimated cost $5,000-10,000); correction of the parking lot pitch next to the main entrance (cost unknown); annual professional floor stripping/waxing (est. cost $3,000); installation of a utility sink upstairs (est. cost $2,000); installation of a doorbell at the main door (est. cost $50).

Love, Laughter & Chocolate: Flyers were distributed and plans are moving forward for this event scheduled for Sunday, February 7. Ann Torrey and Audrey Grice are co-chairing the event.

Scholarships: Last year not one student applied for the Pina Gentri Jaroslow Scholarship. A new essay subject was proposed for this year’s scholarship: “Why do I want to attend camp/art camp?” A name change for the award was discussed, and a revised application will be sent to all committee members for comment. Applications will be available April 1 for Cheshire students going into grades 2-8 next fall.

The Barbara Formica Bowman Scholarship was awarded for the winter session, and the Louise Meusel Scholarship was awarded last fall.

10. Theatre Sub-Committee – Bob Averack
The subcommittee met on December 28, 2009, to preview and revise the report to be given to Parks and Recreation regarding the 2009 season and 2010 Action Plan. The report was modified in accordance with the subcommittee consensus.

The subcommittee (minus Nancy Bussmann) met with Bob Ceccolini and Sandy Petela on January 4 at Parks and Recreation to review 2009 accomplishments, key lessons learned, and the 2010 Action Plan. Mr. Ceccolini and Ms. Petela endorsed most of the recommendations of the subcommittee and requested a small number of changes to the Action Plan.

The subcommittee met on January 12 to select the shows and backups for the 2010 theatrical season. They are as follows: Cheshire Youth Theater – *Guys and Dolls* (backup, in case rights are not available, is *Oklahoma*). Comedy I01 – *Footloose* (backup is *The Wedding Singer*). *Ms. Bussmann made a motion to approve the selection of shows and backups for the 2010 theatrical season; Ms. Burt seconded, and the motion was unanimously accepted.*

Other aspects of the 2010 season are as follows:
- The Producer for the 2010 season is Pamela Averack.
Comedy IOI will be directed by Cindy Genzano and presented at Cheshire High School on July 8-10, 2010.

Cheshire Youth Theater will be directed by Dana Sachs and presented at Cheshire High School on July 22-24, 2010.

Comedy IOI will be open to Cheshire and regional residents from incoming grade 12 through post-collegiate age. There is an option to cancel the show if it does not attain at least a 60% actor participation from among Cheshire residents.

The Comedy IOI program may be subject to discontinuation if it does not achieve revenues of approximately 85% of expenses.

Comedy IOI participation fee will be increased to $75 for Cheshire residents and $100 for non-residents.

All fees, including a guarantee of ad-book sales, for both shows, will be collected at time of registration.

Auditions for CYT are as follows: Saturday, April 10, 3-6 p.m., and Sunday, April 11, 1-4 p.m.; callbacks Sunday, April 11, 5-6 p.m.

Auditions for Comedy IOI are as follows: Saturday/Sunday, May 22/23, 5-8 p.m.; callbacks Monday, May 24, 7-9 p.m.

CYT Registration and Mandatory Parents Meeting: Tuesday, April 27, 6-8 p.m.

CYT First Rehearsal Thursday, April 29, 6-8:30 p.m.

There are no spring theater classes.

Ms. Petela will check with Nick Poccia to see if a Town email account can be set up for the theater group

11. Old Business

Artsday, March 14, 2010 Plans: Ms. Lodinsky and Ms. Lohr have started to call and schedule teachers for Artsday. Volunteers are needed. A list of necessary items for this event will be presented at the next CPFA meeting.
Art Challenge 2010 Plans: This year, only a Children’s Art Challenge will take place. It is planned to combine two of last year’s kits into one larger kit for each of this year’s contestants. Small awards will be given this year. Activities that need to occur are advertising, selling of kits, establishment of a dates for submittal deadline and pickup by parents of judged entries, and selection of judge(s). Kits will be sold at Artsday (participants can pick them up on the way out) and at Artsday the following week. Information will be included on the flyer.

12. New Business

CPFA Annual Scholarship: The subcommittee will meet the week of April 5-9 to have a vote on the applicants by the April 13 CPFA meeting, so as to advise the high school by April 23.

2010 CPFA Meeting Dates: A proposed list of dates was discussed and some modifications made, leading to the following list (all Tuesdays): January 19, February 9, March 9, April 13, May 11, June 15, July 13, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 7, and January 18, 2011.

Ms. Townes made a motion to accept these dates, Ms. Rutberg seconded, and the motion was unanimously accepted.

13. Adjournment

Ms. Townes made a motion for adjournment, Ms. Lohr seconded, and it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth G. Augustine
Temporary Recording Secretary