

Seymour Culture and Arts Commission

Meeting December 11, 2012

7:00 PM

Seymour Town Hall

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 11/21/12
TIME: 3:50 PM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Those Present: Valerie D'Anna Mary Barbin Ann Conroy Priscilla Altorelli

Judy Simpson Linda Bellavance

Others Present: Jeri Swinik Joe Majoras Jim Cronin

Public Comment: Jim Cronin would like to be placed on the January 8, 2013 Commission's agenda to address an idea he is working on for a talent show at the Strand in the spring of 2013. Chairman Simpson thanked Mr. Cronin for his request and said he would be placed on the agenda at next month's meeting.

Strand Report: Theater manager Jeri Swinik submitted an invoice she recently received from Elm City Neon. The company who had refurbished the marquee was called out by Mrs. Swinik regarding lights not working on the marquee. Elm City came out and replaced ballast and some light bulbs. Priscilla Altorelli will send Elm City a letter stating we feel this ballast should have been replaced when original refurbishment was done and why are we getting a bill for return work. She will also share this invoice with the Knights of Columbus, as they paid 50% of the marquee refurbishment.

Mrs. Swinik also reported that new projector and blue-ray DVD player have been installed and tested. The Theater is ready to start with the Classic Movies starting 12/15/12 with the Christmas Classic "A Wonderful Life, showing at 9:00 pm. This will take place right after the Free Christmas Concert by the Naugatuck Community Symphony Orchestra. Mrs. Swinik contact Sue Hunter from the Gazette and asked her to do article on the Classic Movies being played.

A bill has not been submitted for installation of new projector and blue ray player but she will get to Priscilla as soon as it is received.

She stated that she had been contacted by George Dewey from Dewey's Pub about having a band concert at the Strand. He will be put on next month's agenda.

The folding chairs have all had replacement tabs put on bottoms to keep from scratching off paint on stage.

Mrs. Swinik apologized for not having the monthly report with her. She will get it to Priscilla Altorelli for recording sometime this week.

Minutes: A Motion was made by Valerie D'Anna to accept Minutes from 11/13/12 as Read second by Priscilla Altorelli **VOTE: 2 Yes 0 No 1 Abstained**

Correspondences were circulated to Board for review, letters and notes from Linda Bellavance sent for flowers and donations received for both her husband and father with their recent passing.

Treasurer's Report: See attached presented by Priscilla Altorelli, Commission Treasurer. Mrs. Altorelli stated that by the end of the month she would need to submit the Board's 2014 Budget for review. After discussion it was decided that due to the high cost of oil, that particular line item would be increased (Other Utilities) an increase will be requested in the line item (Purchased Services) as the costs of getting band for concerts increases every year. An additional amount will be requested in the (Rent) line item, as the Strand lease will run out this May 2013 and we are sure to see an increase in our monthly rental payment to the Knights of Columbus.

In total Mrs. Altorelli will request an additional amount of \$2,000.00 from our budget request of 2012.

Motion "To make the increase request of \$2,000.00 was made by Valerie D'Anna and second by Linda Bellavance **Vote: 4 Yes 0 NO 0 Abstained**

Advertisement: Kim Osgood not present. Judy Simpson stated that an article had been in the Bridgeport Post about the upcoming Holiday Concert on Saturday, December 15, 2012.

Chairman's Report: Chairman Simpson asked Linda Bellavance to give a report on "Parking Issues" in the Seymour Plaza parking lot since our December First Saturday's towing fiasco.

Mrs. Bellavance reported that it was extremely unfortunate that several families with children in tow, had returned to the Plaza's lot after seeing Santa arrive in town on the train, only to find their cars had been towed from the lot. She had been contacted by people who had experienced the same problem the day of the Christmas Parade and when attending to business at Seymour Town Hall. She reported that a meeting had just been held at Town Hall the afternoon before with 2 of the business owners of the Plaza. HairPort and the Seymour Laundromat's owners were in attendance with First Selectman Mr. Miller, Selectwoman Karen Staneck, Fred Messoro the town's Economic Development Director, Karen Fisher, Megan Tarby from the Downtown Merchant's Group and Culture and Arts Chairman Judy Simpson. Although it was hoped that an agreement would come out of the meeting to help alleviate the parking problem, Linda Bellavance reported that the storeowners were not interested in negotiating and they were very

Emphatic that NO PARKING would be allowed at any time other than for patrons of the businesses located in the plaza. The Commission was in full agreement that from this day forward any advertisement, news article and window flyer will have to state clearly that ***Cars will be towed by the Business Owners of the First Street Plaza Lot if used while attending any Culture and Art event.**

Chairman Simpson reported that Mrs. Swinik had donated 14 free passes to the Strand Theater with a free popcorn with each ticket to be given to Chatfield/LoPresti School's Christmas Helpers' Program.

Schedule of meeting dates for 2013 were distributed as submitted to the Town Clerk's Office.

Old Business: Price of Strand Movie Theater ticket. A Motion "To raise the ticket price at the Strand Theater from \$4.50 to \$5.00 per ticket starting 1/1/2013 was made by Pricilla Altorelli second by Valerie D'Anna **VOTE: 4 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAINED**

Motion made by Linda Bellavance to adjourn meeting at 9:00 PM second by Ann Conroy

4 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAINED

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Bellavance

Secretary