



Town of Seymour

1 First Street • Seymour, Connecticut 06483
Telephone: 203-888-2511

CULTURE & ARTS COMMISSION

Meeting
May 13, 2008
SEYMOUR TOWN HALL
7:00 PM FLAHERTY HALL

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 5/20/08
TIME: 3:40 PM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Members Present: Judith Simpson Valerie D'Anna Mary Reyher Priscilla Altorelli
Linda Bellavance
Others Present: Jeri Swinik

Members Absent: Ann Conroy Jane Hull

Meeting called to order at 7:06, members recited the Pledge of Allegiance

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Strand Theater: Chairman Simpson handed out several letters and discussed pending contracts for the rental of the Strand Theater. She brought to the Commission's attention one such request by SONCAA, asking to bring the children attending the summer program to see a movie. Due to their non-profit status it was discussed that they should be quoted the lowest price possible. Jeri Swinik stated that if they paid \$4.00 per person, this would cover the salaries of both her and the projectionist. Judy Simpson will contact SONCAA to inform them of the price. They will be requested to bring their own snacks and remove their own garbage.

It was asked if there was a standard fee schedule for the use of the theater, Jeri Swinik, theater manager, stated that she charges \$125.00 per hour for its rental. Individual ticket prices with a soda and popcorn will vary due to the amount of people attending the event. Enough money must be made to pay the employees for their time plus bringing in a small profit. For birthday parties the usual fee is \$12.00 per person, this provides them the movie, a soda and a popcorn.

Jeri requested a change in the movie schedule, which she would like to begin in June and continue through August. She proposed the running of 2 movies on Friday night and 2 movies on Saturday. Times to be 7:00 PM and 9:00 PM. Members of the Commission saw no problem with this change but did remind Jeri of the occasional use of the K of C Hall above the theater for dances or parties which may cause some noise during the second movie. Jeri did not think that that would be a continuous problem.

All Strand invoices and contracts were submitted to the Commission.

Jeri stated to the Commission that she and her projectionist John were very angry that neither of them had received a raise. She felt that the Culture and Arts Commission was remiss in not making sure that the theater staff receive a raise. It was explained to her that this Culture and Arts Commission had never been involved in salaries before and did not

know about staff raises until after "budget time". Judy Simpson will meet with First Selectman Koskelowski to discuss this matter.

Treasurer's Report: Priscilla Altorelli reported the following:

Account Balance **\$11,910.10 to date**

Lease payments have been made through May, 2008

Oil bills: (1/15/08 - **\$723.84**) (1/30/08- **\$874.74**) (2/23/08 - **\$1,162.19**)
(3/17/08 - **\$1,384.04**)

Electric bills through 2/28/08 (**\$549.98**) through 3/31/08 (**\$664.75**) through 4/30/08 (**\$287.81**)

\$134.28 & \$34.59 Secretarial supply purchase

Contracted Services Line Item has **\$6,777.70** to date. Judy requested that the PO's be written to cover checks for the summer bands as soon as possible so all funds from the line item would be deleted by 6/30/08.

Secretary's Report:

Motion to accept minutes from March 11, 2008 was made by Priscilla Altorelli

Second by Valerie D'Anna

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Disqualify

Linda Bellavance reported:

Joelle Anderson from J & J Gardens will fill the 6 barrels by Memorial Day, and she will call the Selectman's office for the third time to request the fourth barrel be moved from Town Hall to the fourth corner at Bank and First Streets.

A letter from Carol Ralston, Head Librarian was reviewed by the Commission requesting our assistance with payment for a musical program in the fall. The venue would be the Strand Theater and we would pay 50% of the cost. At this time Carol is requesting \$250.00. The group is the Marvelous Martins, husband and wife bell ringers.

Motion made by Mary Reyher to co-sponsor the event with the library for \$250.00

Second Priscilla Altorelli

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Disqualify

Linda presented the idea of having an art contest for children in grades 3-12, in which they would create flags to be hung down town. Each flag would have the words SEYMOUR, CT incorporated in the picture. One winner from each of the five schools would be chosen and Culture and Arts would then have the winning drawings made into

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flags/banners to hang down town. Contest could be run January – February 2009, winner chosen and announced in March 2009 and then the flags/banners would be made and hung in the business district in the spring 2009. Idea was well received and committee will discuss it at future meetings. Cost approximation \$500.00 - \$1,000.00

Chairman's Report: Judy Simpson reported the changes in the Strand Lease. Lease will be signed for an additional 5 years.

Members signed up for individual concert attendance.

Flyers for the Summer Concert Series were presented for review. Jane Hull will bring to printers and arrange having them placed in the Valley Gazette the week of June 9, 2008.

Letter from David Keyser was read regarding the busing for seniors to the concerts in the park. We will check with him closer to June to get numbers of those attending. Additional chairs will be purchased if needed at that time.

Arrangements for storing the chairs in the Stone House will be made with The Land Trust.

Although paperwork had not been received yet, it was reported to the Board that we had been given the additional \$2,000.00 in our 2008-2009 budget.

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:05 by Mary Reyher, second Valerie D'Anna

Vote: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Disqualify

Respectfully Submitted,



Linda Bellavance