

**SEYMOUR CULTURE AND ARTS COMMISSION**

COPY RECEIVED  
DATE: 3/12/15  
TIME: 2:40 PM  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**SEYMOUR TOWN HALL**

**7:00 PM / MARCH 10, 2015**

**MINUTES**

**Those in attendance;** Judy Simpson Mary Barbin Ann Conroy Valerie D'Anna

Kim Osgood Priscilla Altorelli Linda Bellavance

**Others in attendance:** Rich Kearns Dee Caruso

Meeting began at 7:00 PM

**Public Comment-** none

**Invited Guests-** Rich Kearns, Security Director from the Seymour School System was invited to attend tonight's meeting to give presentation of what program / programs he might be looking into for presentation at both Seymour Middle School and Seymour High School for the 2015-2016 school year. Since the Commission had paid for several assemblies and programs at both Chatfield LoPresti and Bungay Schools during the 2014-2015 School Year, members thought providing programs at the upper levels next year was only fair.

Mr. Kearns gave a presentation about "Champions of Choices" an anti-bullying / motivational program given by a former wrestler, Marc Mero. He gives a 70 minute presentation with speaking, dancers and film to get the anti-bullying message across to the students. He assured the Commission that this program comes highly recommended and would be a very worthwhile presentation for both schools. Due to the high cost of this program (\$5,000.00), Mr. Kearns will be writing a Grant application to the Valley Community Foundation for assistance in paying for this program. Chairperson, Judy Simpson told Mr. Kearns the Commission would take his request under advisement and we would get back to him.

Mr. Kearns asked the Commission if we could coordinate the Trick or Treat Concert at the Middle School with the Trick or Trunk event at the Middle School next October. Chairman Simpson assured him that something could be worked out to assist each other's event.

Ms. Dee Caruso from Seymour Town Hall was in attendance to speak to the Commission members about grant availability and what direction we should go in to apply for monies to be used towards Culture and Art events. After discussion, it was decided that application for a Mathies Grant will be written. A request for assistance in paying for 1 summer concert band for

\$1,500.00 and \$ 2,500.00 for assistance to Mr. Kearns for Middle and High School programs will be written. Ms. Caruso reminded the group that a \$900.00 Grant had been received last year and will be used to play Flashback for the up-coming summer concert series. Ms Caruso asked the group to have any and all information to her next year by February for submission of Grants.

**Secretary Report:** Motion made by Valerie D'Anna to accept Minutes from January 2015 meeting as Read, second by Kim Osgood.

**VOTE: 4 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN**

**Treasurer's Report:** Priscilla Altorelli reported that we have \$ 6,706.35 in account to date. See Attached. Motion to accept as presented Linda Bellavance second by Valerie D'Anna

**VOTE: 4 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN**

Ms. Altorelli has gone before the Finance Committee with proposal for 2015-2016 budget and requested \$20, 600.00.

**Concerts:** Mary Barbin reported that all contracts had been received for the 2015 summer concert series.

She also told the Committee that she had gone before the Board of Selectmen and asked if the Committee could hang signs at the train station "Welcome to Seymour" and "Thank-you for visiting Seymour" approval given, will work with Nu-age Designs to duplicate style of other signs in town. The possibility of a sculptor in the downtown business district was also presented to the Board of Selectmen and it was stated that a sketch with many details would have to be reviewed before any permission could be given. Linda Bellavance will contact artist in Torrington.

**Advertisement:** Kim Osgood has put up-coming Saturday night concert on Facebook, the Town's website and several of the area newspapers both in print and online. Premier Graphics can do a mass mailing of our concert series to 5,617 households for \$2,265.00 includes printing and postage. Ok was given and we will shoot for a May 1, 2015 mailing. Fliers will also be delivered to Library, Comm. Center and Town Hall as usual.

**New Business:** Linda Bellavance informed the Committee that she had been approached by a parent who had requested a donation for the eighth grade dance at Seymour Middle School. Parent will be instructed to put the request in writing and get it to the Committee at next meeting.

After a lengthy discussion it was decided a minimum of \$100.00 would be awarded only towards the music portion of the dance (paying directly to DJ). The Committee decided that donations such as the fore mentioned would be given only to 1 group per year. When

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donation is made it would have to be tied into Culture and Arts, such as a band or DJ, film and or musical entertainment.

**Old Business:** Judy Simpson will contact Nu-age Designs for ordering of banner for the train station to advertise summer concert dates.

Motion to adjourn made by Kim Osgood and second by Valerie D'Anna at 8:30 pm.

**Vote: 6 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAIN**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Linda Bellavance*

**Secretary**

Sheet1

EXPENDITURES SINCE JANUARY 13,2015 MEETING

\$250.00 P.O. 102113 David Devonshuck (Callahan House)  
\$109.90 P.O. 102114 Mary Barbin (Halloween Bags)  
\$900.00 P.O. 102115 FFlashback 9/05/15  
\$1,000.00 P.O. 102267 Gunsmoke (7/18/15)  
\$720.00 P.O. 102291 Science Snoopers (Chatfield/LoPresti)

\$2,979.90

CURRENT BALANCE

\$6,426.95 Purchased Services  
\$279.40 Supplies

\$6,706.35