

The Hamden Arts Commission held a Regular Meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, December 2 2020 at 7:00 p.m. bis Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/98719960008>. The following items were discussed.

Commissioners in Attendance: Ms. McGarry, Ms. Gargiulo, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Moore, Mr. Kortsep, Ms. LBrown, Ms. Elkin, Ms. Carter-David

Commissioners Excused: Ms Hunter, Ms. Schiff

Commissioners Absent: Ms. Jason, Ms. DBrown

Others in Attendance: Ms. Buggie, Ms. Smith, Ms. Tobin

Ms. Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Review minutes of the November 4, 2020 meeting

Ms. McGarry made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 4th meeting. Ms. Gargiulo seconded the motion. Ms. LBrown abstained. The vote was seven in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Smith reported that there are no changes to the previous report.

Election of Officers

Mr. Moore has volunteered to be considered as Chair of the Arts Commission. Ms. Elkin volunteered to serve as Vice Chair. Ms. Jason is currently Treasurer but prefers not to continue in that position.

Ms. Smith mentioned that staff handles the accounts. Mr. Kortsep, who had served for many years as Treasurer, said he would be willing to serve in that position. Ms. Johnson called for further nominations three times. There were none.

Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the slate as follows: George Moore, Chairman; Donna Elkin, Vice Chair; and Charles Kortsep as Treasurer. Ms, Gargiulo so moved. Ms. McGarry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Chair's Report

Ms. Johnson turned the meeting over to Mr. Moore. Mr. Moore said what are we going to be going forward. He mentioned that perhaps events will not be only held on Zoom. He mentioned that he has been watching YouTube and has seen some videos that have sponsors. He saw a symphony group sponsoring a group that was watching the film. Ms. Buggie mentioned that the Hamden Symphony recorded musicians at home and hired a mixer to mix the film. There are ways to do it and it is worth looking in to. Mr. Moore said it is an idea. Ms. Buggie mentioned that the Hamden Symphony is finishing up their project and it will be shown on December 17th on You Tube.

Ms. Johnson mentioned that the Hamden Art League is having its second art show They hope to have their Silver Bells Art Exhibit on line in about a week. Ms. Smith asked Ms. Johnson to get the publicity to her.

Ms. Johnson expressed thanks to Nancy Torello for her years of service on the Arts Commission. She is very excited about working with the veterans as a member of the Veterans Commission.

Director's Report

Ms. Smith announced that the luminary walk could not happen. She said both the Health Department and the Fire Department said it is not a good idea to have an event where people gather. She might still try to do something with the tree lighting virtually, maybe Facebook live. The Menorah lighting will

probably be on line also. Both ceremonies will take place on a Friday evening in December. Both Public Works and Parks and Recreation have Covid issues. She has been working with Community Services for their toy and food drive and also helped with the turkey distribution. Ms. Martindale is also helping out in other departments.

Holiday Light Tour

Ms. Smith mentioned that she is reaching out to community groups, civic association etc. for a holiday light tour. People seem to be going all out this year to decorate their homes for the holidays. People will be able to opt in to share their address. The list will probably be published by the end of the week.

Ms. Gargiulo mentioned the Sleeping Giant Haiku contest. She said winners are supposed to be announced December 1st, but she has not seen the results. There are three prizes for adults and three for students.

Ms. Buggie said she has been practicing her piano. She is thinking of people that are living in solitude. She would like to connect interested people to some musicians over the phone and listen to them play. Commissioners felt this would be a good idea. Ms. Tobin mentioned that Ms Burbage at the Senior Center might be able to provide the names of seniors that might be interested. Ms. Johnson said there are so many people in isolation suffering from anxiety. Ms. Gargiulo will assist Ms. Buggie. We will have this on the agenda for a future meeting. It was mentioned that student musicians might be willing to play for seniors.

New Business

Mr. Moore mentioned that his oldest daughter has a business called Color Space. People can tune in and she posts the art work on Facebook under her name Margaret Moore-Marquez.

Mr. Moore asked if the Town still has a public access Chanel and Ms. Smith replied sort of.

Ms. Johnson previously told the Commissioners that she would be resigning from the Commission due to some family health issues. Commissioners thanked Ms. Johnson for her service on the Commission. She assured Commissioners that she will still be around but will be unable to participate fully. She will still receive meeting agenda and will be an auxiliary member like Ms Dozier and Mr. Graham, and help out when possible.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. LBrown made a motion to adjourn. Ms. McGarry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk