

Cape Elizabeth Arts Commission
Minutes of the July 10, 2007 Meeting

Sarah Beard Buckley called the July 10, 2007 meeting of the Cape Elizabeth Arts Commission to order at 7:00pm. Present were: Commission Members: Sarah Beard Buckley, Lina Newhouser, Diane Brakely, Steve Popp and Jay Scherma, new Commission Members: Genesta Berry, Wendy Seltzer, and Lynda Brearey; and guests: Town Council member Anne Swift-Kayatta; and Town Manager John McGovern. Genesta was appointed to fill an unexpired term ending 12/31/08; Lynda was appointed to fill an unexpired term ending 12/31/09; Wendy was appointed to serve a term until 12/31/09.

Sarah asked everyone to introduce him or herself. Following introductions, Sarah turned the floor over to Ms. Swift-Kayatta. Ms. Swift-Kayatta explained that they originally needed to talk about adding new members to the Commission, and then keeping them. Mr. McGovern added that the Commission has gone in fits and starts. It's done a lot of great things, but always faces the struggle with little money. It's hard to increase the budget, but if there are good things happening support will follow. Incremental increases are possible.

Ms. Swift-Kayatta observed that the CEAC seems revitalized, and encouraged the Commission to look to the future and share all plans, lists, etc. with the Town Council. It helps if they know what we hope to do and are doing. Sarah BB noted that we had sent them a list. Ms. S-K requested regular updates, encouraging the CEAC to avoid once a year lists at budget time. Mr. McG encouraged the Commission to do other than the visual arts, and suggested that the CEAC focus on 3-4 things we really want to do. He feels that the budget money is now available at the direction of the Commission, since there are new members; all positions on the Commission are filled.

x

Sarah then returned to the agenda.

1. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Lina read about 1/2 of the minutes of the May 8, 2007 meeting. With his eye on the clock, Jay suggested that we just take questions. Diane raised a question about the remaining \$1,850 left from last FY's budget and the proposal that it be extended into the new year. Discussion was postponed for the Treasurer's report. Diane moved that the minutes be accepted. Genesta seconded the motion. All were in favor.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Diane reported that \$1,850 remains in the budget, and noted that the funds need to be spent before the end of June. Jay reported that Mr. McGovern had told him that the Council had carried the funds forward, bringing the total CEAC budget to \$4,850.

Lynda moved that the report, with Jay's addition, be accepted. Lina seconded it. All present were in favor.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- Permanent Art Collection/own Owned Art/School Art Collection

Town Owned Art Update:

Diane reported on identifying the photos on the disk. There are 30 photos. Not all of the photos are on the spreadsheet/list. And not all of the works on the list have photos on the disk. Diane numbered the photos of school art winners (ones with slides only) and added them to the spreadsheet.

Sarah reported that she went to Town Hall today and talked with April about the slides. April knew nothing about the slides. Sarah did not ask April about looking in the safe. Jay reported that the only things on file at the Library are the list Diane has, and appraisals through 1998 of Engine One's collection. Diane noted that it's possible that Engine One's collection is what is on the disk. Jay asked why he (the CEAC files at the Library) had that list and the appraisal. He speculated that perhaps he had them because the Town agreed to insure the pieces. He noted that the "Town Hall" slides were with the photographer who took them, and suggested that we review the CEAC Financial Reports (the town records of CEAC expenditures) to find when checks were written to the photographer. ...as a way to determine who the photographer was and which photos were taken by him/her.

Sarah reported that she had tried to contact the Fire Chief to discuss which pieces on the list might be in their collection. He was not in when she went by.

DECISION/ACTION:

>Sarah will continue to try to meet with the Chief

>Diane will review the financial records to find who the photographer was and when they were paid.

- Update on Status of the School Art Program

Middle School Artwork 2007 Sarah reported that she and Steve selected the 2007 MS winners at the MS Art Night.

ACTION: Diane will check to make sure the Cape Courier has a story from Ms. Rohner. (Diane, is this correct? Minutes were vague on this. If not, let me know and I will revise.)

High School Artwork from 2005. Since the artwork appears to be lost, Diane moved that we write a letter to Mr. McGovern, Town Manager; Mr. Shedd, principal of the HS, and Mary Hart, HS Art Teacher confirming that the work is lost. We should also bill Old Crow Gallery for \$291 (\$91 for framing two pieces; \$100 for each of the two pieces).

(Secretary question: aren't there three (3) pieces of art? If yes, what's the status of the third?)

ACTION: Sarah will write the letter and send it. Diane will provide (? Minutes are not complete on this item. Diane, please send me the info and I will revise.)

Steve reported that the Middle School work 2007 is already framed or otherwise prepared for exhibition at the school.

- Gallery/Library

Steve reported that he had not yet discussed a different date with Ms. Reale Hatem for display of the photos/oral histories resulting from her grant project funded by the CEAC.

ACTION:

- >Steve will continue to work on confirming a new date. Dates to propose for her opening are Wednesday October 3, Saturday October 6, or Friday, October 12th.
- >Sarah will submit an application for exhibition of her artists' work in the Gallery for December.

(Mr. McGovern and Ms. Swift-Kayatta left at 7:20 pm.)

4. NEW BUSINESS

o Library Gallery

Update on Library Gallery Schedule

New Applications:

a) Sarah reported on a new Application from Bob Harrison. She asked if we could select the works we'd like to exhibit? Jay reported that the CEAC has done that in the past. Steve asked if we could table the decision until our next meeting (September). Diane noted it would be a long time for him to wait for a response. Steve moved that we accept him for January. Lynda 2nd the motion. All present voted were in favor.

DECISION/ACTION: Steve will write him to confirm and send the exhibitors packet.

b) Application from Marnie Souza: She requested Oct. or Nov. 2007, but both months are taken. Steve suggested writing her about what is available in 2008. A discussion followed on how far in advance we can schedule. Jay stated that the CEAC does not have any written policy on applications, e.g. How far in advance can exhibits be scheduled? Are applications kept on file? Can artists reapply? Do we want the same artists to apply year after year?

DECISION/ACTION: All present agreed to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting, and that each Commission member should suggest at least three (3) criteria/guidelines for our exhibition program. It was suggested that we keep it as open as possible.

Diane moved that we accept Marnie as an exhibitor for 2008, in some month between February and June. Lynda 2nd the motion. All in favor.

DECISION/ACTION: Steve will write her to confirm and send the exhibitors packet.

c) Chaperones for upcoming receptions:

Background for new members: Diane explained why we have chaperones for the artists' opening receptions. It keeps the artists from having to hire a town required chaperone. Our role is to protect the town property: the Library.

August 3. Genesta said she could possibly do it.
Diane asked Wendy if she could chaperone January – Bob Harrison? She said yes.

DECISION/ACTION:

- >Steve will ask Marlee if she is available.
- >Jay will check with CE Community Services to see if it is acceptable to them for a past CEAC member to chaperone.
- >Wendy will chaperone January 4.

Upcoming Schedule:	Reception	CEAC Chaperone
8/3 CE Art League	yes	possibly Genesta, or Marlee
9/7 Angela Hamann	yes	Steve
10/5 Janice Reale Hatem	yes	Lina (month TBD)
11/2 Jack Riddle and Mary Hall	yes	Steve
12/7 Northeast Portraiture	yes	Sarah (organizer & chaperone)
1/04 Bob Harrison	yes	Wendy

o **Grant Applications**

New application from Patricia McCarthy.

Sarah reported that the proposal is for a photo essay of the Shady Oak Farm. The farm is on Fowler Rd., and is owned by the Strout's. The photos would be accompanied by descriptive comments. The request is for \$1,000.

Sarah noted the proposal is within the guidelines of what we want to fund. Should we decide now or wait?

Diane: Application deadline dates are May 1 and Nov. 1

Steve proposed that we reject it at \$1,000.

Fifteen prints are proposed. Jay: 15 will not fill the gallery. Sarah: Have we required recipients to fill the gallery? Couldn't photos and narrative be enough? We have extra money. The quality of this application is good.

Diane: the \$1,850 is not extra. It's what we have not spent yet on the inventory project. (Diane, is this correct?)

Steve: maybe the applicant needs a decision now, so she can take the photos.

Diane: we can ask her. Suggest we tell her we really like it so she can go ahead and start shooting, but that she should apply at the next deadline in November.

All in favor.

DECISION/ACTION: Sarah will tell her we really like the proposal so she can go ahead and start shooting, but that she should apply at the next deadline in November.

o **CEAC Positions available/New Member Roles**

Positions filled until the end of the year (2007)

Chair: Sarah Beard Buckley

Treasurer: Diane Brakeley

Secretary: Lina Newhouser
Gallery Coordinators (2) Steve Popp; ___to be filled_

Positions to be filled

Vice Chair
Gallery Coordinator
Grants Coordinator

It was suggested that the position of Permanent Art Collection Coordinator is no longer needed, because we are no longer funding the prizes for the school collections; what about the Town Art inventory project? TBD in September.

DECISION/ACTION:

Positions to be discussed and filled at the next meeting.

5. NEXT MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, September 11, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Thomas Memorial Library

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lina Newhouser,
CEAC Secretary