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East Haven Arts Commission Minutes

October 18, 2022

Zoom Meeting

PRESENT: Chairperson Cindy Genzano

Commissioner Sharon Collins

Commissioner Kari Collins

Commissioner Debra Giordano

Commissioner Robert Genzano

Community Member: Michael Moore

Absent Member: Commissioner Kristin Cenevia Iovene

Chairperson Cindy Genzano called the zoom meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Roll call was done and a quorum was present.

Item #2: Minutes Of Last Meeting

Commissioner Kari Collins made a motion to accept the previous minutes; it was 2nd by Commissioner Robert Genzano. All in favor.

Item #3: Nomination for Vice Chairperson

The Commissioners agreed to nominate someone to take on the role of Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Robert Genzano made a motion to nominate Commissioner Kari Collins; it was 2nd by Commissioner Debra Giordano. All in favor. A vote will take place next month.

Item #4: Stipend Funds

Chairperson Cindy Genzano reported that she has made several calls, texts and emails to find out the status of our stipend from the Town Council but has not heard anything yet.

We are also due \$800 from CT Humanities grant which we will receive once we fill out a report regarding our use of funds.

Item #5: Bylaws and Guidelines for Subcommittees

The Commission needs to work on bylaws and guidelines for the Theater and Visual Arts Subcommittees. Considering we are in a downtime phase of the organization, now would be a good time to have these committees meet and work on writing / revising them. Chairperson

Cindy Genzano will send us some info we can use as a guideline. We hope to get info done by January.

Item #6: Future Visual Arts Projects

The Commission is looking for places that have spaces we can rent or borrow so we can do more Visual Arts Shows. Suggestions include placing pieces around the town like at the Town Hall, Library, etc. We are now members of the Chamber of Commerce so perhaps we can partner with them to give us more of a presence in town. The Garden Club is also interested in working with us; there is also a project to decorate Jersey Barriers that we might want to participate with. We have also observed that most of the recent events in town seem to be collaborations by 3 different groups, like Rotary, Garden Club and Chamber of Commerce. The Commission is thinking maybe we can join forces too and have more events. There is also an upcoming event sponsored by Petonito's called Christmas at the Beach. It costs \$60 to enter and we would need to decorate a tree. It might be an idea if people are interested.

Item #7 & #8: Non-Profit Status and Grant

Commissioners have been in touch with our pro bono Attorney and unfortunately, we are working on their time, not ours. However, we are hoping to have nonprofit status become official by the end of December. We are also in the process of applying for the arts grant we received last year but need to be a non-profit for it to receive consideration. They can push our application to the bottom of the pile to buy us more time, so we are keeping our hopes that it will all be set in plenty of time.

Item #9: Need for EHAC Space

We made a few adjustments to our Google doc addressing possible contacts for space acquisition. Commissioners need to add information by November 4 and to make contacts by November 15.

Item #10: New Business

A suggestion was made that for future shows that we display a sign indicating what the online/square payments will show up as on people's card statements in order to avoid any confusion.

Commissioner Kristin Iovene is stepping down in January. This will create another vacancy. We have reached out to Sarah Parlato and have not gotten a response yet. We are also hoping they will open it up to make Michael Moore an official Commissioner considering he has already been helping us.

Our next meeting will be November 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Kari Collins motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.; it was 2nd by Commissioner Sharon Collins. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Commissioner Debra Giordano