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East Haven Arts Commission Minutes

September 20, 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 6:37 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 Sharon Collins. All in favor.

Item #3: Stipend Funds From Town Council Update

Chairperson Cindy has reached out to Joe Deko in order to get our funds from the Town Council. She has not heard anything back yet.

Item #4: Fall Festival Art Exhibit

Michael Moore thanked us for all of our help. We debriefed the event and explained that it was well received and many have expressed interest in submitting items for next year. It cost us \$1,737.17 in materials, some of which we will not have to purchase again such as the lumber. We also realized that we needed more of certain things like the bubble wrap and packing materials. We made notes of things we would like to change or further investigate as well as what worked. We should allocate \$2400 for doing 2 art shows next year to make sure we can achieve our goals. When we apply for grants we will have to explain our purposes for the art shows and what we need the money for. We also need to shrink the amount of time we used when collecting the artwork and make it a part of the contract that the artists are responsible for picking up their own pieces. It definitely was a bigger undertaking but a successful one.

Item #5: Non-Profit Status

Our process to becoming non-profit is moving along, the by-laws are being refined. We will be doing an Incorporation Document establishing Cindy Genzano, Debra Giordano and Sharon Collins as founders and then we will need to nominate a Vice-Chair so that someone is able to run the meeting in the absence of the Chairperson. We will nominate and elect a Vice Chairperson in upcoming meetings.

Item #6: Grant Information

Commissioner Robert Genzano explained that they are working on the final report for the grant and need to make sure the following categories are covered: arts & education, technology and the arts; and inclusion and diversity. The next grant from CT Humanities is due by Nov 4th, and we will not get as much as we did before, but we will not be able to file for 501 (c) (3) status until the end of the year. We can still apply for the grant and hope that they can push it until we are non-profit.

Item #7: Need for EHAC Space

We need someone who is willing to contact people to see what spaces are available, in other words, we need to network. A suggestion was made by Commissioner Kari Collins to set up a Google doc with a list of people in town who might be able to help as well as other organizations as to how we can achieve this goal. It might be beneficial to join the Chamber of Commerce so that we have access to even more options. All members should add to this list and also agree to put their name down as the one who will make the contact.

Item #8: New Business

We will look into getting another member and adding Michael Moore to our board after we are done with the Mural Project.

We were asked by Michelle Benivegna to participate in the parade on October 9th. We would like to and we will get more information and see what we need to do. We are thinking we can have our banner and have members and actors, etc. wear show shirts and maybe sing some songs.

Our next meeting will be October 18, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Sharon Collins motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.; it was 2nd by Commissioner Robert Genzano. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Commissioner Debra Giordano