

Hightstown Cultural Arts Commission Minutes
6/17/15

Present: Sue Howard, Barbara Harrington, Frank Rivera, Ann Marie Miller,

Absent: Kim Bosnoski, Denny Hansen, Kat Liao, Kerrie Peterson, Catherine Rodrigue, Jonathan Shahn, Adam Welch

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 and minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved. Frank Rivera motioned for approval, with Barb Harrington seconding.

Ann Marie reported that she attended a planning session for the Latino Festival coming up on July 11 at Rocky Brook Park. She had offered, on behalf of the Cultural Arts Commission, to help get the word out about the festival so that the audience is diverse outside of the Latino community that normally attends the festival. She circulated a press release for the Festival that is attached to these minutes. Please spread the word and plan on attending.

In terms of marketing and spreading the word about events, it was suggested that we look into a bulletin board that is behind glass, similar to the one in Etra Park, for Memorial Park. It would be a great way to post information about community wide events near the library.

Sue Howard reported that the rug mill sale, that was earlier said to be restricted to storage for future use, may have more potential for adaptive reuse and suggested we learn more to see if there is potential for the Cultural Arts Commission.

Barb Harrington reported that she attended a Harvest Fair planning meeting with Ann Marie and that the Fair planning committee was enthusiastically supportive of anything the Cultural Arts Commission could do to ramp up the cultural aspect of the fair. Barb has reached out to several people who have worked on or are interested in arts activities at the fair (Diana Lang, Barbara DiLorenzo, Karen West, Melissa Ryan, Art Station) and will be meeting with folks individually to see how they would like to participate. Barb circulated a plan (also attached to these minutes) to connect the arts parts of the fair with participants using a type of "passport" that gets stamped by a volunteer at each arts location throughout the fair (performance, arts activity) and then return it to a Cultural Arts Commission booth that would enter each passport into a prize drawing. Additionally, it was suggested that each arts venue have a banner or some connecting "identifier."

Barb suggested the CAC have a booth to distribute information and speak with festival participants, collect surveys, etc. It will require volunteer assistance.

As a hands on arts activity, Barb suggested yarnbombing some trees and benches in Memorial Park and/or the Lake Walkway, and creating a few 3x3' mosaic panels around themes like community and creativity. She passed around photos of each activity including examples of the mosaic murals at Magic Gardens in Philadelphia. The concept was enthusiastically received, but will require a good deal of advance planning. Barb brought examples of the kinds of materials that could be used in a mosaic that she picked up at RISE's thrift store including a variety of glass, pottery and tiles.

It's clear that to do all of this, we will require help from each of the Commissioners and volunteer help as well. Barb said she will relay this info at the next Harvest Fair planning

committee and asked all Commissioners to review the attached sheet that also lists supplies that will be needed for the mosaic boards and for which we will seek donations.

There being no other old or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Marie Miller
Chair