

## **Hightstown Cultural Arts Commission Minutes**

**11/09/16**

**Peddie School**

**7:30 PM**

*Present:* Ann Marie Miller, Catherine Rodrigue, Susan Bluth, Michelle Jordan (Park & Recreation Liaison), Sue Howard, Frank Rivera, Heather Lisk

*Absent:* Barbara Harrington, Jonathan Shahn, Adam Welch, Mike Fabian, Genevieve Fabian (Hightstown High School Student)

*Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to Public Laws of 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice as advertised in the Trenton Times and Windsor Hights Herald, as required by law, and is posted in the Borough Clerk's office.*

October minutes approved.

The group continued discussion around planning for events and/or suggesting events going forward.

Ann Marie mentioned an empty storefront across from the Post Office and contacted Jeff Bond about the possibility of a pop-up location for the holidays.

Since the Commission last met, Ann Marie has met with other organizations and floated the idea of sharing resources, human resources as opposed to financial resources. Ann Marie suggested working with Meadow Lakes. Ann Marie mentioned a Porch Space idea, and Sue agreed that's an interesting idea and might work in Hightstown where people take pride in their houses. She also commented on a public art associated with water spaces. She said we don't use the lake that way. Ann Marie said a porch or lake festival might be good July, August, September attractions, around the same time as the Theater in the Park.

Sue said one way to get the adults in town involved is through their children.

Ann Marie asked Heather about what we might do with students. She said Hightstown High has an arts show at the end of the year. It's a one night event. She said they would love for it to be bigger.

Ann Marie said Frank and Jonathan might take the lead with the public art idea.

Frank asked about the partnership idea and the Downtown Hightstown group. Ann Marie said that group does not have any money to help.

Ann Marie said it's on her agenda to see if we can get the Firehouse as a location for an Empty Bowls event in March. Heather said she might be able to get students to participate. Susan reiterated the need to secure a date for the Firehouse.

Susan asked about the library show and thinks this might be a space we can use for demonstration space. Susan said it was suggested to have a kick-off costume parade or town wide decorating contest around Halloween.

Frank mentioned going back to the outdoor art consultant. Heather will follow-up with Downtown Hightstown about an event like the window winter wonderland art.

Ann Marie mentioned downtown Trenton improvements that beautified and promoted the city. She said 12 Farms might be a good partner for something like this.

Catherine mentioned Peddie has shows, but it's not clear how much interest the public might have in these performances. It's high school talent, as opposed to professional performances. That said, some Meadow Lakes folks attended last night's Music Concert at Peddie. There are also Gallery shows. Perhaps there's an opportunity for Peddie-Hightstown High collaboration.

Susan asked about the date of the Empty Bowls.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.