

Hightstown Cultural Arts Commission Minutes
4/20/2016
Peddie School
7:30 PM

Present: Ann Marie Miller, Catherine Rodrigue, Jonathan Shahn, Sue Howard, Susan Bluth, Frank Rivera, Heather Lisk, Kim Boknoski, Mike Fabian, Genevieve Fabian (Hightstown High School Student), Adam Welch, Barbara Harrington

Absent: Paul Mordetsky

Public in Attendance: Kerrie Peterson

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.

Ann Marie Miller called the meeting to order at 7:35PM

Ann Marie shared a spreadsheet indicating how much was raised for RISE through the March event, approximately \$6600 net. Commission members reported positive feedback on the Empty Bowls Project. Mike Fabian mentioned the benefits of having the bowls, though he regretted that the artists were not recognized financially. Frank agreed it's a great first step.

Ann Marie said the storefront at 118 Main Street now has art displayed by Linda Gebhard in the window. She said our banner is in the window, and information on the artist and Arts Commission. Until the space is rented or bought, the Commission can use the window space for art. Ann Marie mentioned a passerby who remarked positively on the December pop-up gallery.

Barbara asked what the Commission wants out of Harvest Fair 2016. Adam is happy to do the same thing he did last year. The date is the Columbus Day weekend, Saturday, October 8. Theater in the Park is a likely possibility. Ann Marie said they will change our space. Adam suggested spots near Adam's location last fall.

Kim, Ann Marie, and Stacey met. Kerrie said they have camps of different lengths. They put in a request for day camps to use the Firehouse from 9 to Noon, but she assumes it will take a while to get permission for that. She said they have tried to make the camps affordable and accessible. Churches will be an alternative option. Adam confirmed that the camps filled-up last summer. He asked about scholarship allocations for the camps. Adam said it's important to set aside funds to support kids who otherwise cannot attend the camps. Kerrie confirmed allocations for scholarships and hopes the enrollment is sufficient to accomplish this initiative. Frank said he appreciates the initiative of trying to utilize the Firehouse.

Ann Marie asked about a Fall Event/Fundraiser, perhaps something in the space at the Byrne's deli. Commission members asked about a possible Halloween event. The Borough is planning a Halloween event. Mike wondered what this fundraiser would be for. Sue suggested the Tavern space. Mike said we'd have to identify what the funds are being raised for and said he thinks people will give more readily to something they feel part of. Adam suggested just having a party

without the fundraising focus. Mike and Kim agreed to work on it, and Barbara said she will work on marketing.

Ann Marie said the meeting with Parks and Recreation was great. Ann Marie said she went to the Tavern jazz event and thought it attracted an appreciative crowd.

Mike brought back the Halloween celebration on Stockton St. He noted the increase in activity/participation among the homes. There is an Historical Society House tour the week before Halloween, October 23. Mike suggested the possibility of a graveyard tour or haunted house. He thinks there's an opportunity to capitalize on Hightstown's Halloween reputation. Genevieve said the Commission should stay off of the Monday night of Halloween.

Adam moved the meeting adjourn. Frank seconded. The meeting ended at 8:18PM.