

## HIGHTSTOWN CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes for Meeting of February 17, 2021  
Zoom Meeting

1. Commission Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM.

Commissioners present: Ann Marie Miller, Sue Howard, Adam Welch, Daniel Trent, Stephanie Spann, Carlos Fernandez (secretary), and council representative Susan Bluth.

2. Review of January Minutes, motion to accept minutes, approved unanimously.

3. Oath of Office for New Members of the Commission

Need Stephanie Spann and Heather Lisk's signed and completed Oath of Office document. Alison Park remains to be sworn in upon her return from leave.

4. OLD BUSINESS

### Hightstown's Got Talent

Carlos reports that we received 22 entries for the Hightstown's Got Talent Showcase, scheduled for March 20. The submissions include works in music, dance, theatre, visual arts and gymnastics, and the artists represent diverse ethnicities, genders and ages. Length averages about 3:30 minutes so we should be able to include a majority of the submission. Carlos indicates that most are of a good quality, considering that they were created in the context of a pandemic.

Motion to create a subcommittee to review and select works for the showcase.

Dan Trent and Carlos Fernandez will pull together a group to review, inviting Chanika Svetvilas or Heather Lisk to participate in the process. Jurors will use selection criteria published with the call to develop a rubric to assess the works, consider any copyright issues that need to be addressed and notify Ann Marie of their selection. Ann Marie offers to communicate with the artists to inform them about the commissioner's decision.

iCare (non-for profit suicide prevention, sponsors of the Empty Bowls) has offered 1, 2, 3 prizes for the talent show. Alternatively, we could offer gift cards to all participants. Commissioners express concerns about monetizing the event and possible copyright infringement, and a decision is made to move forward without prizes or gift cards.

Commissioners further discuss the work needed to produce the event on March 20. Ann Marie suggests to hire the services of a producer to help with the technical details. Carlos agrees to reach out to Gustavo Arce (who produced the promotional video for the program) to produce the event, create a script for the live presentation, and to secure a master of ceremonies.

### Artist Meetup

Ann Marie reports that the next Artist Meetup is set for Thursday, February 23, with five artists presenting. Promotion continues on social media.

### 300 anniversary (October 2021)

Sue Howard reports that only one commission member has responded to her call for location suggestions for inclusion in the commemorative calendar. Commissioners suggest Dawes Park, Molly Pitcher's and Clara Barton's houses.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### iCare Partnership

Due to COVID, iCare would like to offer students some virtual arts activities, including crafts. iCare would purchase and offer supplies; HCAC would offer Zoom platform and secure instructors. iCare is already working with Theatre in the Park, also to keep kids involved in arts and wellness activities.

Adam is concerned about our bandwidth to organize the workshops. Barbara DiLorenzo of Princeton Arts Council could be hired to organize sessions. Ann Marie suggests that Paul Mordetski (sketching), Kathy Tsao (paper cutting), and Ann Marie (embroidery) could put together some sessions, with non commissioners paid by HCAC. iCare would deliver materials to participants (possible clients). Ann Marie will get back to iCare and let them know we are interested.

#### Parks and Recreation Commission Updates

Stephanie reports that they are currently considering options for the annual Triathlon, scheduled for September 10, 2021. P&R is also considering possibilities for Fun Fridays. They are focused on completing improvements to Dawes Park.

### 5. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 17, 2021 on Zoom.

### 6. ADJOURN

***Motion to adjourn at 8:34 approved unanimously.  
Minutes prepared by Carlos Fernandez and submitted 2/17/2021.***