

HIGHTSTOWN CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes for Meeting of June 9, 2021

Old Hights Brewery - 6:30 PM

1. Commission Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM.

Commissioners present: Sue Howard, Chanika Svetvilas, Ann Marie Miller, Adam Welch, and Carlos Fernandez (secretary), council representative Susan Bluth.

2. Review of April Minutes
 - a. Request addition of iCare information and artists
 - b. Motion to accept minutes, approved unanimously

3. OLD BUSINESS

300th anniversary

Sue Howard reports that she researched options for the "Hightstown Then and Now" calendar, and that she recommends an 18-month calendar, estimated to cost under \$7 each. We need to identify judges to review works submitted. Suggestions are made to have the calendar spiral bound to facilitate page turning. Design and layout could be produced by commission itself. Ann suggests hiring a professional photographer to photograph the work.

At the moment we have 6 entries; the calendar will include older photos, plus new artwork. Anne reports that she has submitted news items to various newspapers, and the school district, but we need to further promote the opportunity on social media. Deadline will be pushed to July 21 to allow more time for submissions.

Susan Bluth reports that the Borough is looking for ideas to commemorate the 300th Anniversary, and asks commissioners to propose possible events and activities.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Pop up paint out

Ann Marie plans to do a pop up paintout on Saturday, June 12 in order to help promote the calendar.

Brewery Donation

Old Hights Brewery has donated \$1,000 to the HCAC. Photo event to follow Commission immediately after today's meeting.

New Mural Project

Commission considers ideas for a follow up mural on the brewery spool. (One side of the spool has already been painted.) The competitions could be open to Hightstown, East Windsor and surrounding communities. The commission would offer supplies and an honorarium of \$300.

Motion: Solicit applications for creating a public art mural outside the Old Hights Brewery, honorarium of \$300 plus supplies.

Motion passed.

Empty Bowls

Adam outlines that Empty Bowls will be held next March 2022. Bowls created for last year's event will be used. Planning to honor 222 tickets purchased last year, while working to sell 100 tickets more.

Artist Meetup

Chanika reports that West Windsor Arts Council has expressed interest in possible collaboration with Hightstown and its online artist meetups, as there is significant interest from artists outside Hightstown to network and demonstrate their work. Also considering the possibility of field trips. Commissioners express support for developing collaboration with WWAC.

U-Rise

Anne reported that we are working to include events and activities from the HCAC on the U-Rise platform. Carlos explains that the project is funded by PenFed Credit Union and seeks to support learning, community and care. The platform is being launched on Saturday, June 12. More information at <https://urise.njrise.org/>.

Our Town Grant

Anne Marie shared the idea of a collaborative grant being developed with Rise for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), In Our Town grant. The application is due June 2022, and is for a two year project and \$25K-50K. Commissioners indicated interest in pursuing the collaboration to strengthen cultural ties within the community.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 14, 2021 on Zoom.

1. ADJOURN

***Motion to adjourn at 7:30 approved unanimously.
Minutes prepared by Carlos Fernandez and submitted 6/21/2021.***