

Somers Point Arts Commission Meeting – May 22, 2017

Somers Point City Hall

Meeting Called to Order 6:02pm; Open Public Meeting statement read by Kathy

Attending: Kathy Arleth, Lois Gregory, Mark Shockley, Karen Sutherland, Christine Toland Ulrich

Also attending - Council Member Liaison, Kirk Gerety

Approval of minutes of April 24, 2017: Karen made the motion, Christine seconded, motion carried

Business

1. Financial report: Balances - Trust fund – no update; City fund – budget passed for \$1200; Grant fund = 0 to date
 2. Applications for 2017 Program and Project funding
 - Ocean First –\$1000 from Ocean First Bank Marketing, through Chick Pinto, received & deposited into Trust Fund
 - TD Bank – (1) program (*Arts Reach Out*) \$2500 (2) event (Art in the Park) \$5000 – reviewed 4/29; No response as yet
 - D'Arcy Johnson Day Law- Possible contact for funding next year.
 3. Amending the Ordinance for the Arts Commission –
 - Ordinance changes as reported in April minutes: Kirk reported 1st reading was heard at Council May 11; second reading & public comment will occur May 25. He expects no opposition.
 - Becoming a 501c3: Further discussion with Jim Franklin pending. Meeting to be set up either at his office or via an invitation to a commission meeting.
 - Questions: Can we remain a city organization and still be a 501c3? How is funding handled & separated when tax exempt donations come in? Historical Society received money left from an estate; are there tax/legal implications if that were to happen to us?
 4. 2017 Programs, Projects, Events
 - **Ongoing**
 - Arts Reach Out: Kathy meeting with Christine O'Brien & Dan Myers to prepare the art work to be displayed at Art in the Park from the After-school children's program.
 - Seniors schedule – tentatively in July; information to be out through CER office
 - **Painting DOT Boxes** – Members of the GTGC signed up. Supplies to be ordered. Need artists.
 - Public Works being asked to prime the boxes
 - Kirk indicates there's a possible donation of primer paint being given to The Gateway Playhouse and we could avail ourselves of what's unused.
 - **Art in the Park – June 17, 2017** – Kathy, Lois, Debi, Karen, Donna
 - Committee meets regularly; next meeting May 26, 10:30 @ 25 Broadway
 - Artists' applications coming in & there are more than this time last year
 - One artist inquired about inclusion of a Digital/Technology category using Wacom tablet as watercolor.
- Discussion followed, samples were examined and decision was made to accept this kind of work. It will not be judged this year, however, since it was not listed in the application as an approved category.
- PR/Promos: Karen has placed posters in several locations; Lois has posted in Facebook several times calling artists; Ad appeared in The Current for artists; 4x8 signs Eastern Signs are in place in 3 locations.
 - 2-sided postcards to be created, ordered from Ventnor Print & distributed
 - Food Trucks will be limited to four: Pork Island BBQ, Philly Pretzel Factory, Mr. Ice Cream Man, Goji Juice Bar
 - Need Commission member's participation Friday, 6/16 & Saturday, 6/17; need additional volunteers.
- **Foodie Film Festival:** Will occur 2 nights, October 6 & 7 @ GBCC. Kathy & Donna met with Megan Elbana 4/26 and they will work to coordinate food items with films chosen.
5. **Other business**
 - Cultural Place Making meeting in Hammonton 4/24/17. Karen attended. Speaker shared importance of working with the community (There's No Community without Culture); lots of grant money available.
 - Membership in organizations: South Jersey Jazz Society would cost \$250 for the year. We'd be entitled to promotions anytime Jazz is a component of our event. No vote taken.
 - Use of City logo: We are free to create one for the commission using the colors/guidelines of the SP brand. City owns the trademark and final approval would come from them. Discussion followed; no decision.
 - Poet Laureate, Maria Provenzano, will read at the Memorial Day ceremony

Meeting adjourned 7:09pm; **Next regular meeting: June 26, 6pm, City Hall Council Room**