

## Somers Point Arts Commission Meeting – June 26, 2017 – Somers Point City Hall

Meeting Called to Order 6:04pm; Open Public Meeting statement read by Kathy

Attendance: Kathy Arleth, Lois Gregory, Donna Mohr, Mark Shockley, Karen Sutherland, Ginny Swift, Debra Westcott.

Council Member liaison: Kirk Gerety; Also attending: City Solicitor, Jim Franklin

Commission –Approval of minutes of May 22, 2017 Debi made the motion, Karen seconded, motion carried

### Business

1. Discussion/questions with Jim Franklin regarding forming a separate 501(c)(3): Jim had previously sent information re: the benefits and procedure for forming. See attached for specifics. Brief discussion followed. No decisions made, but it may be in our interest to seek an independent group to form a non-profit (i.e. Friends of the Arts) who would be separate from the Commission, but act as the group to seek or give funding for special projects.
2. Financial report – Balance as of 6/23/27: Trust fund = \$8732.11 City fund = \$74.48 Grant fund = 0
3. Applications for 2017 Program and Project funding: TD Bank: Requested \$2500 for *Arts Reach Out*; \$5000 for Art in the Park. Commission notified by email via John Davidson that we did not qualify.
4. Programs Funding for 2018
  - 2018 List of programs and Budget to be determined: Donna & Kathy will work together; ready by late August.
  - NJSCA due 9/6/17; all 2018 Programs will be presented to City Council at their Nov. 9 mtg. for approval.
  - It was suggested we add some specific program funding to our City budget request in case of short-fall donations.
  - Once programs are in place, need to begin sending applications to possible funding sources for 2018
5. 2017 Programs, Projects, Events
  - **Arts Reach Out:** Seniors class schedule set for July 18, Aug. 1, Aug. 8, 2-hours each, at the Senior Center. Set up through CER
  - **Shore Medical Hospital's Senior Social:** July 19 Kathy presenting the topic, "Art in the Community." Lois will assist her with creating a PowerPoint presentation
  - **Painting DOT Boxes** – Members of the GTGC signed up; artists still needed so ad in Current could be warranted.
    - Left over primer paint from The Gateway Playhouse should be enough for boxes.
    - Need to gather list of who owns which boxes (city, county, state); Kirk will work with Greg Schneider (City Engineer) to determine who owns which boxes. Possible start with the boxes at the old circle intersection.
    - Kathy will contact David Hughes (Somers Point Community First) for assistance in getting volunteers to prime the boxes.
  - **Art in the Park:** June 17, 2017 – Kathy, Lois, Debi, Karen, Donna met June 21 for their re-cap mtg.
    - 2018 Date: June 16; Kathy will proceed to obtain Park permit. There will be no rain date.
    - Will remain a festival of traditional 2-D fine art; no crafts, digital, photography, sculpture.
    - Food vendors Pork Island BBQ & Mr. Ice Cream Man were pleased with sales; will be asked back.
    - Winning artists will have an exhibit at Great Bay Gallery July 5-29; artists' reception July 7.
  - **Foodie Film Festival:** Friday & Saturday, October 6 & 7 at GBCC - Theme: All Things Chocolate
    - Films: *Chocolat* (PG-13, 2000) and *Like Water for Chocolate* (R, 1992, Sp with Eng. Subtitles); Kathy will set up another meeting with Megan Elbana/GBCC to discuss theme and food pairings.
    - For the future may want to consider a Jazz Film Festival with SJJF instead of concentrating on a Food Fest.
6. South Jersey Jazz Society requested sponsorship/ad for the Ocean First Jazz @The Point. Members determined not to be a sponsor but to place an ad with cost TBD at the July meeting;
  - Discussion for business membership in SJJF; Lois made the motion, Donna seconded that we become a business member of SJJF @ \$250 per year. Would give us additional promotions via their large database & social media any time we include jazz during our events. Motion passed.
  - Kirk suggested our involvement with SJJF and others, SPBA, April in Paris, could be part of a budget category, showing how we interface & interact with other groups for the good of the City.
7. Amending the Ordinance for the Arts Commission: Although the April minutes stated the requested changes, there was miscommunication and these were not presented to Council for approval. Kirk will see that they become part of the next Council agenda.
8. Other business: Membership in Art Pride NJ and SJ Cultural Alliance still to be determined; Stockton Intern - Kathy meeting this summer with their representative for further details. Possible assistance could be with advertising, promotions, grant writing.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:13

Next regular meeting, 4th Monday, July 24, 2017, 6pm, City Hall Council Room