



CITY OF DANBURY CULTURAL COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF JULY 28, 2008 MEETING DANBURY CULTURAL COMMISSION

Present: B. DaSilva, M. Schwartz, B. Feinson, H. Center, M. Burke, J. Cherry, H. Bechard
X G. Smith X C. Rotello.

1. Minutes of last meeting were accepted with corrections: H. Center was not present but was excused, G. Smith was absent but excused.

2. **Danbury Brass Band**, Alan Raph requested \$625 to present a concert Oct. 30 at Tarrywile Mansion featuring concert and refreshments. They have not received a grant from us in over ten years and have been a long time performing group in the Danbury area.

3. **Safe to Swim Weekend**. Tony Yacobellis was introduced to the commission by Pete Walrath (Gas Ball, etc.). Yacobellis said the weekend would feature a huge network of 38 of the best local and national musical artists throughout the country. They will present 19 hours of great music. He is covering the cost of the second stage which he had to build because the first one did not meet city requirements as well as the cost of renting the facility from City Center. Every musical group was paid. Some fund raising was done to help with the cost of the events. They are requesting \$3,500.

3. **Cheryl Dury and Phyllis Franz requested funding for art therapy** for adults dealing with cancer and for families dealing with cancer. The women are both qualified professionals and will be providing these services at ICAN, Ann's Place. They requested \$850 for the Adult Workshop and \$1,700 for the Family Workshop.

4. **William Knight of the Wm. Knight Foundation** requested a grant of \$2,500. for 10 needy local children to attend camp and workshops through August. They have been operating summer camps for youths living in public housing for fourteen years, teaching arts and crafts, computers, etc. and providing lunch.. This year they have added the Audubon program. They have received help from fund raising , the News Times Campership fund plus other organizations.

Coordinator's Report: M. Siegel reported on the three July puppet shows. Attendance was lower for the July 6 program due to being close to the July 4th weekend. She suggested that next year we start the weekend after as we have done in the past. The programs were enthusiastically enjoyed and were entertaining for the whole family. She thanked H. Center for serving as host for one of the shows.

5. **DCC Sponsored Events:** B. DaSilva reported that the **Richter Musicals "Wonderful Town"** performance was very well done and that **Midsummer Night's Dream at Ives Concert Park** was excellent. He was very impressed with the quality of the acting and costumes and the appreciative audience. H. Bechard reported on the **Henry Abbott Tech scholarship awards** and remarked about the attractive changes to the building and the well organized program provided by the school..

Action Taken: Danbury Brass Band: H. Bechard moved we grant \$625. M. Burke seconded the motion which was passed. **Safe to Swim:** H. Center moved we grant \$2,000, B. Feinson seconded motion which was passed. **Cheryl Dury Art Therapy for Adults and Workshop for Families:** M. Schwartz moved we grant \$2,000; H. Bechard seconded motion which was passed.

Wm. Knight Childrens Summer Camp: M. Burke moved we grant \$1,500; H. Center seconded the motion which was passed with one abstention.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Mildred Siegel, Coordinator

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