



CITY OF DANBURY CULTURAL COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2013 MEETING - DANBURY CULTURAL COMMISSION

Present: B.DaSilva, H. Bechard H. Center, G. Smith, J. Cherry, M. Schwartz, G. Wencek., J.Cherry xB.Feinson

Minutes were accepted as mailed.

Literacy Volunteers of America. Tom Pinkham requested \$900 for a history program workshop new citizens who want to learn more about this country. Classes are four times a week, there is fee. The program includes homework and is a true educational experience. There has been an increase in students and in their retention.

Danbury Downtown Council, Andrea Gartner, thanked us for our past funding and requested \$5,000 for this years free Summer Concert Series. The programs take place from June 15 to Sept. 23, Fridays and Saturdays from 7 to 10 pm and will include three cultural festivals. Local musicians will open the acts and a non profit organization will be featured each week.

Harambee Center for Youth and Community Services, Bill Curtis, requested \$3,000 for their cultural, educational and recreational youth programs at the Armory. Among the artists. musicians and writing instructors, some are former Harambee students who volunteer their talents and resources to this program. This year, reading and dance classes have been added to the agenda, plus a program to help elementary students maintain and develop new skills.

DCC Sponsored Activities: The music and art programs at Richter Assoc. For the Arts have been excellent and diverse, featuring fine classical and popular musical and arts talents, as has the Danbury Concert Assoc. The Danbury Music Centre programs have continued to provide fine musical performances to the community.

Coordinators Report: M. Siegel reported that the DCC 41st Annual Poetry Contest on May 20 was very successful. The poets were very talented and appreciated their poetry awards, as did the audience of family, friends and teachers. She thanked the commissioners for their help,

Other: M. Schwartz reported on the downtown **Danbury mural group meeting** where the committee discussed possible mural subjects and some types of proposed renderings. The mural site selected will be on the DaSilva building and will be called the Gateway to new England.

Action Taken: Literacy Volunteers: H. Bechard moved we grant \$850; G. Smith 2nd motion which was passed. **Harambee:** M. Schwartz moved we grant \$3,000 seconded by G. Wencek and passed. J.Cherry abstained. **City Center:** H. Bechard moved we grant \$4,000 M. Schwartz seconded the Motion, which was passed.

Other Action: Due to retirement of B.DaSilva, a motion was made to make H. Center chairman, to serve no more than a three year term.. Motion was voted upon and unanimously approved.

Mildred Siegel, Coordinator