



CITY OF DANBURY CULTURAL COMMISSION

256 Main Street
Danbury, Connecticut 06810
203 797 4508

September 27, 2021

Minutes of the Meeting

Meeting called to order, in person and as a video conference call, by Chairman Harvey Center at 6:30 pm with Commissioners: John Cherry, John Cooke, Ed Moore, Cheryl Hill, Gregory Smith, and Coordinator Gregory Wencek. Absent: Mary Burke.

Presentation of Minutes

The Minutes of the August meeting were submitted. A motion by GSmith to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by EMoore. Passed by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

eMail: RECEIVED: SongFest pop up, CT Arts Grants available, Make Music Day training, press releases for local events which I added to the calendar and website,
SENT: replies

Mail:

Phone: Helen Bechard memorial Saturday October 16, 2021 between 1-5 pm at Ives concert hall. I have been asked to speak about Helen's time on the Commission.

Reports on DCC sponsored events

• Richter Association for the Arts Performance Series Fall 2021- Weekly on Sunday, until Nov 1
HCenter: attended the 3 concerts so far. The first and second had an attendance of a few people. The third and many perhaps 30. That jazz performance was very good.

Danbury events not sponsored by the Commission

- Danbury Music Centre
 - Nutcracker auditions 9/19
 - First Friday Jazz - Monthly on the first Friday
- Danbury Museums
 - Danbury Museum and historical society
 - Guided Tours of 4 Danbury Museum Historic Buildings on our Main Street campus
 - The outdoor exhibit panels are installed
 - Danbury Railway Museum
 - Open on Saturdays and Sundays ONLY from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Palace Theater Danbury
 - The Union Jacks
 - The Kingston Trio
 - Joanie Madden and Friends in a Night of Irish Music
 - Manhattan Short Film Festival, TWO BIG NIGHTS OF INDIE FILM
- Danbury Brass Band
- Dancing Under the Stars - Monthly on the last Thursday
- Pop up Event 194 Main St - Singer Songwriter Showcase Friday, 8/ 27

BY: dcf

2021 SEP 29 P 2:09
RECEIVED FOR RECORD
DANBURY TOWN CLERK



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- Galleries
 - Gallery at Still River Editions
 - Gallery of the Visual and Performing Arts Center WCSU Westside campus, 43 Lake Ave. Extension
- United Methodist Church - Two For The Road: An Evening with Jeanine Pardey Levine & Andrew Levine 9/25
- Danbury Library

Upcoming events

Calendar submitted to the Commissioners, and maintained at DanburyArts.com See addendum

Coordinator's Report

1. I will attend the Seminar The Arts Revitalize the Economy: Roundtable Discussion on October 8th on Zoom 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM..
2. Americans for the Arts Survey
 - a. For the past few years this Commission has participated by supplying event information including number of events and numbers and types of attendees
 - b. I have used that data in the City budget proposal to build the case that supporting cultural growth increases economic growth
 - c. This year they appear to require membership of \$6,000, which in my opinion, is not worth Commission expense.
 - d. I will see if we can obtain the data from the state Arts Commission
3. The air conditioner is still not working. The City facilities department is working on it.
 - a. From Sean Hanley: "The contractor is currently scheduling the repair."
 - b. Work was done today but apparently not completed
4. The Commission Calendar and Website have been updated with the latest information on events, and COVID19 recovery and other grants for organizations.
Also included is the Richter Arts Art show.
5. Entered in preliminary discussion with Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut about future projects to be worked on together
6. Guidelines for grant applications have been discussed with the Chairman but a report is ready yet. We will continue the discussions.

Appeals from Community groups:

Danbury Brass Band - Alan Raph, Director

This request is for the annual Pre-Halloween concert, which this year will fall on Halloween at the Immanuel Lutheran Church from 2:00 to 3:30. The group is now smaller than in the past at 12 members. There had been 15 and at one time as many as 25. With this smaller group there is a better sound and almost every member is a composer and arranger.

All works this year, focusing on Halloween and All Saints Day, will be original and most are being premiered at the concert. There will be no intermission at this 90 minute concert. A total of 65 people are expected.

JCherry: What kind of publicity will be done? ARaph: 5 News paper ads over 3 days.



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Richter Association for the Arts - Richard Teasdale, Treasurer

The condition of the house is deteriorating. There is mold preventing events from being held inside the house. The Park Authority has indicated they might address the issue next year. With the potential loss of the Richter house new venues are being investigated. They come at the cost of space rental.

This season all concerts are being held on the side porch, weather permitting.

HCenter: What is the status of the State grant for building repairs? RTeasdale: there is little progress being reported by the Authority on the 1 million from the State and the Matching \$500,000 from the City. Current renovation estimates are 3 t 4 Million dollars.

HCenter: Has the Richter Arts board asked the Richter Authority to address the mold issue? RTeasdale: Yes.

HCenter: Is there remaining funding from last year's grant? RTeasdale: Yes, it is still being used for the current season.

Old Business

1. Guidelines for grant applications. Report tabled until next meeting.
2. Apparel - Logo availability for in-person marketing and publicity events will be brought to "Iovino Brothers" as soon as possible.
3. Designs for Danbury tabled. Will need a funding vote.

Action on Grant Requests:

Danbury Brass Band requests \$500. Moved by GSmith to grant \$500, seconded by EMoore.

DISCUSSION: none

CALLED: Funding of \$500 Passed by unanimous vote.

Richter Association for the Arts requests \$10,000. Moved by JCooke to grant \$3,500, seconded by EMoore.

DISCUSSION: EMoors: is the Richter Association currently able to meet their financial obligations? Yes.

GSmith: should the discussion be tabled until the follow up report from this season is received? The consensus is no because that may not be available until January.

CALLED: Funding of \$3,500 passed with one (1) abstaining vote.

New Business

None

Other Business

Intern report: Jonathan Wencek - Define ways to reach a younger audience. These are trial ideas. Commissioners should decide if they want the Intern to continue on these projects. Both ideas were accepted as viable.

- a. A Mural Walk. Perhaps take a selfie including the mural in the background and answer questions about the work. The answers could be on a sign at the mural location or on the web.

HCenter: A unique idea. There appear to be no major financial expenses. JWencek: Only a small prize such as a gift certificate or tickets to a sponsored event.



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- b. An Art Fair. Invite artists and Crafters to display and sell their work.
GSmith: Coordinate with the Arts Alliance of Western Connecticut to see if they are doing anything similar.
HCenter: Check with City Center as a co-sponsor. There could be some funding from this Commission.
The Coordinator is instructed to assist the Intern with contacting the named organizations.

Motion to adjourn at 7:30

Made by GSmith. Passed by Unanimous vote.

NOTE:

Corporation Counsel has provided the Clerk's office with the following... Current as of 3/16/20:

Effective with Gov. Lamont's Executive Order No. 7B issued on 3/14/20, the requirement of public attendance at all meetings of public agencies is suspended. Meetings are to be held remotely by conference call, videoconference, or other technology, provided that (in summary):

1) the public has the ability to view or listen to each meeting or proceeding in real time by phone, video or other technology.

Therefore the Commission office had set up a video conference call which started at 6:00 on Monday evening. Commissioners and the public connected to Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84723908151?pwd=dkNTZFJKL3E1NXdSN3cvRU13SGdWQT09>

Meeting ID: 847 2390 8151 Passcode: 188808

One tap mobile +19294362866,,84723908151#,,,,*188808# US (New York)	Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York) Meeting ID: 819 3063 2330 Passcode: 188808
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The meeting started at 6:30 and was not recorded by the Commission.



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Upcoming events Addendum

~~Two For The Road: An Evening with Jeanine Pardey Levine and Andrew Levine~~
~~Saturday, September 25 7:00 – 8:30pm~~
~~United Methodist Church~~
~~5 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury, CT 06811~~

* Richter Association for the Arts Performance Series Fall 2021
Sunday, September 26 12:00 – 1:30pm
Weekly on Sunday, until Nov 1, 2021

Dancing Under the Stars [NOT WITH CT BALLET]
Thursday, September 30 6:30 – 8:30pm
Monthly on the last Thursday, until Oct 1, 2021

First Fridays Jazz! - Danbury Music Centre
Friday, October 1 8:00 – 9:00pm
Monthly on the first Friday

Singer Songwriter Showcase
Saturday, October 2 7:00 – 9:00pm
194 Main St, Danbury, CT 06810

The Danbury Ripper
Hosted by CluedUpp Games
Saturday, October 2, 2021 at 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM EDT
Danbury, CT, USA
Tickets:
www.cluedupp.com/products/the-ripper-danbury-ct

Pumpkin Festival
Saturday, October 9 10:00am – 4:00pm
United Methodist Church
5 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury, CT 06811

Fall Reflections: Songs of Hope, Thanks, and New Beginnings
Saturday, October 9 7:00 – 8:30pm
Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
30 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury, CT 06811

Forest of Fear
Hosted by Forest of Fear
FRIDAY, OCT 15 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM EDT
SATURDAY, OCT 16 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM EDT
FRIDAY, OCT 22 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM EDT
St. Gregory the Great Parish, Danbury
85 Great Plain Road, Danbury, CT 06811

Head Over Heels
Hosted by Western Connecticut State University, WCSU School of Visual and Performing Arts and WCSU Department of Theatre Arts
FRIDAY, OCT 15 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM EDT
SATURDAY, OCT 16 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM EDT
SUNDAY, OCT 17 2:00 PM – 11:00 PM EDT
43 Lake Avenue Extension,,Danbury,06811

10 Year Retrospective Group Exhibition - Gallery at Still River Editions
June 12 – December 17, 2021
Still River Editions
128 E Liberty St Suite 3, Danbury, CT 06810

Fall Reflections: Songs of Hope, Thanks, and New Beginnings
Saturday, October 9 7:00 – 8:30pm
Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
30 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury, CT 06811

PUMPKIN PATCH TRAINS - Danbury Railway Museum Pumpkin Patch Trains Saturdays:
October 2, 9, 16, 23 & Sundays: October 3, 10, 17,
24 every hour on the half hour 10:30 - 3:30