



Middletown Committee for the Arts
Minutes

Monday, February 7, 2011 at 5:00 pm
The Healing Co-Operative 272 Mitchell's Lane Middletown, RI 02842

Those in attendance: Linda Phelan, chair; Amy Cordeiro, vice-chair; Susan Woythaler, secretary; Diana Skaggs, Diane Andrews, Nancy McAuliffe, Diane Kerins, Lisa Hansel and Carmela Geer.

Absent: Richard Cambra, liaison to the Town Council; Shaylah Morse, student representative

❖ **Call to Order**

- Linda Phelan called the meeting to order at 5:07PM

❖ **Motion to approve previous Minutes of January 10 Meeting**

- Motion to accept the minutes was made by Linda Phelan. Second by Diane Kerins. All approved.

❖ **Review Venue options for 2011 Festival as presented by Town.**

- Linda met with Shawn Brown and Richard Cambra to explore and to discuss possible venues and the date of Saturday, August 20, 2011 for the **Middletown Celebration of the Arts**.
- Venue possibilities: JFK School on West Main Rd; Potsy Field on West Main Rd; and the field at Berkeley Peckham School.
 - JFK School is being rented out to a film production company, Looking Upwards and another group.
 - Discussion on the two remaining venue sites.
 - It was decided by a "hand vote" to use the field at Berkeley Peckham School for the Celebration. Diane Andrews, Nancy McAuliffe, Susan Woythaler, Lisa Cordeiro and Diane Kerins voted in favor of the Berkeley Peckham field and Diana Skaggs, Amy Cordeiro, Carmela Geer and Linda Phelan voted favor of Potsy Field.

❖ **Committee member discussion, thoughts and ideas pertaining to 2011 Middletown Celebration of the Arts.**

- Discussion about the layout of the field with the main tent and the vendors.
 - Shawn Brown said that the town would provide a 40x80 tent. A stage would be in the center with rows of chairs on both sides.
 - **Vendors**—Linda will write a "call out" for Middletown artisans who have original work to display, show and/or to sell. The selections will be "juried". Lisa will also send out an e-mail blast to the list of artists that we have compiled. Each will be provided a 10x10 space for \$25.00. This fee will help to defray our expenses. These spaces will be around the perimeter of the tent. Therefore, there is room for approximately 20 vendors. Linda is also working on a "flyer" for the event.

- **Performers**—A “call out” will also be published for Middletown performers to offer demonstrations, workshops or performances. The performers will be given a “block of time”, but not charged for their participation.
- Ideas for activities et cetera.
 - Potters, visual artists, fiber arts, metal arts, glass, culinary, basket weaving, jewelry, wearable art, clothing design, flower design, culinary competition, poetry reading or “slams”, storytelling, a suggestion box for the committee, raffles (things donated by the artists), have another “survey” available, projects, demonstrations, every 15 minutes have the attention on one artists to talk and demonstrate the work, face painting, balloon animals, puppets, (puppet making for kids), music and singing with a “FuFu band” (hand percussion for children to play), organic gardening, Potter’s League with adoptable animals to show.
- Time of the event: 10am to 6PM on Saturday, August 20, 2011
- The committee needs to pursue funding sources for this event.

❖ **Old Business**

- Web site update
 - Susan mentioned that she saw that the “Committee for the Arts” has been added to the Town web-site. The page includes the list of committee members.
 - Carmela said that she has a lot of information that she will give to Matt Wainwright to add to the web site.
- Notice of the meeting for the Middletown Committee for the Arts
 - The question was asked why the meeting notice wasn’t listed in the Daily News. Linda said that it has been listed.

❖ **New Business**

- Susan suggested that the committee expand its membership in order to have more help in planning the Arts Celebration.
 - The present committee members’ terms expire in April 2011, so at that time we will have to “reapply” to be on the committee and at that time others may apply also. All applicants will have to be approved by the Town Council.

❖ **Next Scheduled Meeting**

- Monday, March 14, 2011, 5PM-6:30PM at the Gaudet Middle School Library

❖ **Adjourn Meeting**

- Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm with thanks to Linda for hosting.

Respectfully submitted by: Susan Woythaler, secretary