



Middletown Committee for the Arts
Minutes

Monday, January 23, 2012 at 5:15 pm
Middletown Police Department, Valley Road, Middletown, RI 02842

- ❖ Call to Order
 - Meeting was called to order at 5:25pm
 - Present: Richard Cambra, Linda Phelan, Carmela Geer, Diana Skaggs, Lisa Hansel, Diane Kerins, Rod O’Hanley, Sharon Morgera, Diane Andrews

- ❖ Review and Approval of October 3, 2011 Minutes
 - Minutes were accepted by unanimous vote without correction

- ❖ Review of Committee Terms
 - The Committee Chair reminded the group that some members would have received letters regarding their term expiration and encouraged them to contact the Town Clerk’s Office if they wished to apply for reinstatement.

 - Student Committee Member
 - The committee discussed that it was time to recruit a student (or 2) to be representative as a non-voting member of the committee.
 - The group discussed the possibility of asking a student from St. George’s to participate as well.

- ❖ 2012 Celebration of the Arts
 - The group agreed that last year’s Celebration of the Arts was a tremendous success and agreed to move forward in hosting it again this summer and supporting it as an annual event.

- ❖ Old Business
 - Mission Statement:
The Mission of the Middletown Committee for the Arts is to support, to create and to promote the Arts within our community, while contributing to the cultural enrichment of Middletown’s own economy. Also, we envision a Middletown where the Arts and artists thrive and are wholly integrated in the socio-economic fabric of the community, contributing in unique and multi-faceted ways while sharing in community responsibilities.

 - Group discussion on ideas in which to move the committee’s mission forward.
The following items were discussed during this brainstorming session:
 - To bring the arts to the underserved through the Club Respect Program at Oxbow Farms – ideas included visual arts classes or painting a mural on the outside of the club building

- To work with the Open Space Committee to beautify Dulap Park
- Establishing an Aquidneck Island License Plate that supports the arts
- Supporting an arts contest to create a new beach sticker every year that displays local artistic talent
- Creating a new Committee for the Arts Webpage attached to the new Middletown portal that would push information through Facebook and Twitter (also including a RSS feed that would allow participants to subscribe the webpage)
- Create an endorsement process by which the Committee would be displayed on concert programs and posters. Possibly starting with the schools and branching out from there. (For example, the MPS District Art Show endorsed by the Middletown Committee for the Arts)
- Building a database of local artisans and events that could be tapped into by the public through our webpage.
- The need to display local works of art in public buildings such as the library and town Hall.

❖ New Business

- Independent assignments/Group assignments to work towards goals.
 - Diane Kerins and Lisa Hansel would work to recruit student representatives for the committee
 - Diana Skaggs would investigate the license plate and Club Respect projects
 - Diane Kerins would get in touch with Alan Waite at MHS to investigate how to display art work in public settings
 - Carm would investigate a committee endorsement process
 - Linda Phelan would investigate the webpage possibilities and the beach sticker idea
 - Linda would contact Mason Hawes from the Open Space Committee regarding the park idea

❖ Next Scheduled Meeting February 27. 2012

❖ Adjourn Meeting at 6:22pm