



Amended Minutes of the Meeting

Wednesday, June 28, 2023, 7:00 PM

Room 208, Municipal Bldg.

245 deKoven Drive, Middletown, CT

Hybrid – To Be Held Both In-Person and By WebEx

In attendance

Lee Godburn, Chair
Charlotte McCoid
Sandra Russo-Driska
David Wolfram

Also in attendance

Kisha Michael
(Arts Coordinator)
Julia Faraci (Admin. Secy)
Ed McKeon, Common Council

Absent

Pam Steele, Vice Chair
Sari Rosenblatt
Kate Ten Eyck
Mike Marino, Common Council

In attendance via Webex:

Domenique Thornton, Secy.
Anthony Pandolfe

Members of the Public:

Sharon Riley

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by the Chair at 7:15 PM.

Remote attendees attended through a laptop connection due to technical errors on Webex

2. Public Session:

none

3. Approval of Minutes:

May 24, 2023 Meeting

- Motion to approve Minutes by Russo-Driska, seconded by McCoid, passed unanimously with no discussion.

4. Approval of Agenda:

- Motion to approve Agenda by Wolfram, seconded by McCoid, passed unanimously with no discussion.

5. Remarks from the Chair – no remarks

6. Old Business –

A. Staff Report – no report. Michael reported that Fireworks is on Saturday. Circus staff is training this week, and the program is starting on Monday.

B. Committee reports – The Arts Coordinator reminded all Committees to meet.

i. Planning and Projects – no report.

Committee Chair Pandolfe noted a last minute meeting cancellation but stated the Committee's work is in a good place. Next meeting will be on July 18th at 5:00 pm.

Godburn, as Commission Chair, thanked the Committee for their work on Juneteenth, PRIDE, and Make Music Day. He recommended ways to make the PRIDE booth more visible next year. He urged Planning & Projects to become more involved in support of Juneteenth celebration, now that procedure is in place for PRIDE.

ii. Public Art - no report



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Godburn suggested that increased signage about Middletown events would increase visibility in the MCA's display in the window of Middletown Adult Ed on Main Street. He recommended asking Cromwell about their variable signage. Jim Misenti is the contact for the keys to the window.

iii. Nominating Committee – no report

iv. Grant Review Subcommittee

The Subcommittee, under the Executive Committee, will remain on the Regular Meeting agenda. The Executive Committee will not meet for this purpose unless the Arts Office states a need to do so.

7. New Business

A. Nominating Committee

- i. **Executive Committee** – The following slate was proposed and will be brought before the full Commission for a vote at the July Meeting:

Chair: Sandra Russo-Driska
Vice Chair: Anthony Pandolfe
Secretary: David Wolfram

8. Announcements

Kate Ten Eyck, whose term is ending, could not attend this meeting. She forwarded a letter to the Commission which Secretary Faraci read aloud to the Commission. The letter was accompanied by photos of artwork from the "Mosaics on Main" currently in the Irreplaceable Artifacts storefront on Main Street. Russo-Driska commented that the artwork is "phenomenal" and that the Downtown Business District is looking forward to more collaborations.

Michael acknowledged the contributions of Commissioners McCoid and Godburn, whose terms are also ending, calling them "powerful forces", and noting that their "imprint will always live" in the Commission.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Russo-Driska, seconded by McCoid. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26, at 7:00 PM.

Attachments: [Mosaic Project photos](#) ; [Dear CommissionersKTenEyck](#)

Respectfully submitted,
Julia Faraci
Admin. Secretary III,
Arts & Culture Office