

Ridgefield Arts Council
Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2011

Council members in attendance were Els Carboni, Randy Carboni, Carolina Fernandez, Maxime Francis, Paul Gervais, Alison Greeley, Kay Mayr, Dara Polenghi-Quinn and Andrew Levine.

Auxiliary Members in attendance were Kristina Kelly and Emelie Howard.

Daniele Hampton, a prospective new member, was in attendance for an interview.

Minutes: June minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Els reported on the balances in the accounts. Alison noted that if the Creativity Conference is moved to Spring 2012, those expenses will not be able to be paid by the FY 2011 LAA Grant, whose deadline is September 30, 2011 (RAC is requesting an extension through December 31, 2011).

Notes from the Chair:

Alison presented RAC's annual report to the BOS on June 15. As requested by the members of the BOS, she shared their collective appreciation and thanks to the members of RAC for their ongoing efforts on behalf of the Town.

Alison also asked members to keep track of volunteer hours spent on RAC business, as they are often requested in grant applications and arts agency surveys. Members agreed to report on time spent at the monthly meetings.

Candidate Introduction and Interview:

Daniele Hampton made a statement about why she wanted to join RAC and was interviewed by council members.

Committee Reports:

Communications

Chair: Randy Carboni

Members: Carolina Fernandez, Alison Greeley

Randy reported on monthly website visits. He also updated the council on the Helios calendar; RAC's license agreement has expired and we have been experiencing some technical difficulties as a result. Council members approved the expense to renew the license.

Maxime offered to manage RAC's Facebook communications.

Paul shared some pricing on stationary from Minute Man and Economy Printers. Members asked him to obtain a quote from Squash's, as well. Paul will circulate quotes from all three for a vote.

Development Report

Chair: Alison Greeley (temporarily)

Salon Committee: Andrew, Carolina, Daniele and Kristina

Toscana Fundraiser – October 27: Maxime, Paul, Kristina and Daniele

Sub-committees agreed to meet and discuss plans separately.

Cultural Festival: Saturday, October 1, 2011 in Ballard Park (Rain date: Sat, Oct. 15)

Chair: Alison Greeley

Members: Kay Mayr, Darla Shaw, Andrew Levine, Dara Quinn, Paul Gervais

Sub-committee met prior to RAC meeting. Planning continues. Alison asked everyone to do personal outreach to people and organizations that may be interested in participating.

Networking Event: Date TBD

Chair: Carolina Fernandez

No news to report. Carolina did request additional help this year as it looks like the Creativity Conference with the Aldrich and Library may be scheduled close to this annual event.

Behind the Scenes' Honors: Date TBD

Chair: Paul Gervais

Members: Kay Mayr

Paul submitted the article to the Ridgefield Press. There were some issues with the photos. Alison will send some photos to Randy to post to the website.

Old Business:

Summerfest 2011

Maxime and Kristina will be on hand to promote RAC at this year's event.

Creativity Conference

Andrew and Carolina reported that progress continues. An expanded working group meets bi-weekly and is currently targeting dates in the spring for the inaugural Creativity Conference.

HVCA Collaborative Destination Marketing

Alison reported that she had compiled and submitted the necessary information to Lisa Scails of HCVA. The regional marketing piece will go to print and be distributed through direct mail late this summer.

Taste of Danbury, September 10 / HVCA table:

Alison reported that HVCA will host a table at the Taste of Danbury on September 10. They will distribute information for us if we get it to them prior to the event.

New Business:

Fall in Love with Ridgefield / Pumpkin Festival: Oct 14-16

Alison shared some information about plans for this year's festival, which will be a bigger event.

Michael Chekhov International Theater Festival: September 24

Emelie Howard shared an update on the festival plans as asked for the council's assistance. She will send information for posting to RAC's website and calendar, as well as specific volunteer needs.

Meeting adjourned for Executive Session.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 2, 2011 at 7:30pm. at Town Hall.**

Recorded and submitted by Alison Greeley, Council Chair