

Ridgefield Arts Council

Monthly Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2010

Committee members in attendance were Alison Greeley, Ruth Wilder Feldman, Paul Gervais, Kay Mayr, Khristee Rich, Randy Carboni, Carolina Fernandez, and Andrew Levine.

Guests in attendance were Alice Carboni, prospective member, and guest. Alice Carboni is interested in being our treasurer. She was the treasurer for the Girl Scouts.

Minutes:

October minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Alison is treasurer until new treasurer has been named.

We are tracking the Community Center check. We have been approved for 2011 grant through the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, so we will be receiving another \$9,175 that needs to be matched. We didn't use our town budget of \$1,500 for this year, so it will be applied to next year. Plus we will still receive \$1,500 for 2011. We will start with \$3,000 towards the matching grant.

Notes from the Chair:

Randy Carboni was officially approved. He was accepted by the board and approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Cultural Festival: Saturday, October 2, 2010 in Ballard Park (Rain date: Sat, Oct. 16)

Chair: Alison Greeley

Members: Khristee Rich, Kay Mayr and Ruth Wilder Feldman

We sent out a survey to all those who participated in the festival and 93% said that they would like it to be an annual event. Some suggestions were to have more food, to start later in the day, to have more art for sale, and to have one stage instead of several.

We will try to have a marching band next year.

We discussed having the festival at the Community Center, but decided that Ballard Park would be more economical and easier to reserve.

Alison will create a checklist for next year's cultural festival and reserve dates for next year's festival. We discussed having the rain date the following Sunday, but don't want to interfere with ROAR's event. Alison will reserve Saturday, October 1 and two weeks later for the rain date. We would like to keep the Cultural Festival in October for National Arts and Humanities month.

We will explore the idea of having discounts/coupons from restaurants to hand-out in the park.

Communications

Chair: Ruth Wilder Feldman

Members: Carolina Fernandez, Andrew Levine, Khristee Rich and Alison Greeley

Ruth spoke with Nick at Mada. Randy will be taking over the Web site. Ruth will be handling transitions. Ruth and Randy will meet with Nick at Mada in NYC for the transition and she will have a communications meeting soon to teach everyone how to make updates on the Web site.

Changes to the Web site will be made. The News section will become the Gallery. There will be two slide shows. This will be where local artists work will be displayed.

We need to write press release about seeking new members with specifics of what we are looking for such as someone with grant writing and fundraising experience. The new members do not need to be artists, but should be interested in public service.

Behind the Scenes

Chair: Paul Gervais

Members: Kay Mayr

No Updates

Networking Event

Chair: Carolina Fernandez

Members: Ruth Wilder Feldman

We have new contacts at The Aldrich since Elizabeth Zeder is leaving.

Andrew and Randy became new members of the networking event.

Development Report

Chair: Alison Greeley (temporarily)

Members: Paul Gervais, Alison Greeley and Kay Mayr

We will finalize the list of who has contributed. We made \$1,300 at our fundraiser at Toscana. We will do an annual event at Toscana; the next one will be in October.

We will also do a concert salon with performers at someone's house in the spring. Carolina will brainstorm costs.

We need to allocate costs for all events.

Old Business

Community Sign Board

An Eagle Scout will build two sign boards. The areas being considered are the Rec Center and the Recycling Center.

We still need locations for banners.

New Business

Meeting Dates for 2011

We decided to change our July monthly meeting from July 5 to July 12, (the second Tuesday in July) due to the 4th of July holiday. Motion was approved to change the date for that meeting. All other meetings will be the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

December 2010 Meeting

We decided to have our monthly meeting in December (a shorter meeting) and then take Ruth out for a drink afterwards to thank her for her four years of service on the board.

2011 PR Idea

In an effort to put more of a focus on the board and arts organizations, Alison came up with the idea for everyone to write an article for the press about things they haven't done in town and then describe their experience doing it. This would promote the Council and the arts organizations.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 7, 2010 at 7:30pm at Town Hall.**

Recorded and submitted by Khristee Rich, Secretary