

ENFIELD CULTURE AND ARTS COMMISSION

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, October 5, 2021

Via Zoom 6:30 pm

Present:

Members of the Commission:

Emily McIntosh, Jennefer Ryan, Emily Clifford

Town Staff Liaison: Jason Neely

Special Guest: Elizabeth Szewczyk, Enfield Poet Laureate

Approval of prior minutes: Emily M. made a motion to accept the minutes, Jennefer seconded the motion. Minutes accepted.

Chairperson's Remarks

Sam Nolan had submitted her resignation from ECAC and it was accepted.

Emily M. introduced Elizabeth and explained the Torchlight Parade information which was then covered in New Business.

Staff Liaison Remarks

Senior Center AV equipment update: currently getting quotes but it's taking longer than expected due to COVID-19 disrupting normal business timelines. They've gotten a quote for \$3500 and are waiting for a second. Since the grant money of \$1000 won't cover it fully, Jason's looking into applying for another grant by CT Humanities.

Jason spoke with the Ujima African American Alliance, a local cultural group who is interested in raising awareness of African American history. They have begun planning a Juneteenth celebration on the Town Green for next year.

New Business

ECAC invited Enfield Poet Laureate Elizabeth Szewczyk to present poetry at the Torchlight Parade in December. This would happen before the Mayor is introduced to the audience. After some discussion, Elizabeth accepted and plans to write and perform 2-3 original poems. On the next ECAC regular meeting on Tuesday, November 9th (postponed from November 2nd due to Election Day), Elizabeth will read the poems to the commission members.

Opera House Players update: Emily M. has tried different ways of contacting the Opera House Players, but no one has responded back to her. The ECAC and the Opera House Players have an official agreement linked to the \$25,000 given by the ECAC to the Opera House Players. In the meantime, Emily M. will be locating the agreement so we can review the terms.

Donna and Emily M's files reveal that the ECAC's bylaws need to be updated.

The Festival of Trees at the Enfield Main Library will open on December 16th. Opera House Players will be singing. ECAC will provide refreshments--the cost is already included in the ECAC budget. The Children's Director will email Emily M. to coordinate refreshment plans.

Old Business

The Paul Biscaccia virtual concert on Sept. 25th 2021 went well. Thank you to Donna and Josh for being the ECAC hosts for the event.

Next Meeting: Originally scheduled for Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 6:30 via Zoom. This was later changed to Tuesday, November 9th at 6:30pm via Zoom.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily A. Clifford