

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
COMMISSION FOR CULTURE, ARTS AND HERITAGE  
BOARD PROCEEDINGS – FEBRUARY 7, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage of the Charter Township of Canton was held on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at the Canton Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan. Chairperson Darian Moore called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Attendance:** Ken Bhuva, Anthony Davis, Sharon Dillenbeck, Kira Macyda, Darian Moore, John Mullinax, Samar Sakakini, Elena Semenov, Greg Hohenberger, Joseph Kvorciak, Mary Falzon (Recorder)

**Excused:** Susan Schwandt, Bill Tesen, Jon LaFever, Jennifer Provenzano

**Absent:** Yvonne Alford, Sue Dodson, Sommer Foster, Thomas Paden, Virginia Thorne-Herrmann

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion by Sakakini, supported by Mullinax to accept the agenda of February 7, 2019 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Davis, supported by Sakakini to accept the meeting minutes of November 8, 2018 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Election – Secretary**

A nomination was received and accepted for Kira Macyda to be elected as Secretary. Motion by Sakakini, supported by Davis to accept the nomination and appoint Kira Macyda as the Secretary of the Commission for 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Strategic Planning – Update**

John Mullinax reported on the Artist Laureate Program, which will select an ambassador for the arts in Canton. This project will put Canton on the map as a location for artists, while supporting local Canton artists.

- John Mullinax and Susan Schwandt made revisions to the plan
- Focus group was held in January at the Village Theater with artists – received excellent feedback
- Thanks extended to Joe Kvorciak and Anne Jahn for conducting the focus group
- Thanks extended to all sub-committee members for their planning efforts

**Next Steps:**

- Mullinax and Schwandt will meet with CLS Director Greg Hohenberger
- Legal – Contingency – Township Board approvals
- Hold funding meeting with stakeholders
- Submit a grant to MCACA

**C. Art & Soul Dreams – Update**

Traveling portrait exhibit focusing on Michigan children in foster care waiting for adoption. There was an art display in January in the Summit Lobby. Very worthwhile program. Exhibit will be in Westland City Hall Gallery in March.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. International Holiday Trees**

Samar Sakakini gave an update report on this project. She met with Summit staff to work on the 2019 Tree Lighting program. Still need to determine if trees will be decorated inside or outside at the Summit. The holiday trees will be donated.

**B. National Arab American Heritage Month**

Samar Sakakini requested a proclamation from Canton Township to designate April as National Arab American Heritage Month. The Cultural Commission can include activities in the Acts of Culture Week. The Village Theater can promote this on its Facebook page.

**C. Acts of Culture Week**

Will be held May 10-19, 2019. Some events planned to date:

- May 10 Fashion Show
- May 11 Prince Tribute Concert
- May 18 PCCS Student Art Show
- TBD Arab American Heritage activities

**COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS**

**A. Partnership for the Arts & Humanities**

- Need a Partnership representative to serve on the Cultural Commission, as Sakakini recently stepped down. Joe Kvorciak will follow-up with Jill Engel.
- March 2, 2019 – 80's Tribute Fundraiser at Village Theater.
- Canton applied for two grants for pathways at the Village Factory. Received a grant from SEMCOG and will be moving forward with the project.

**B. Multicultural Committee**

- March 23, 2019 – Chinese Spring Festival. Ken Bhuvra reported on the many acts lined up. This is the Chinese Year of the Pig.
- Dr. King event was well attended on January 21, 2019. The speaker, school choir, and painter were excellent features.

**C. Historical Society**

- September 7, 2019 – Brew, Brats & Bands at the Barn event. The Cultural Commission will not participate with any booth activity.
- Interpretive Signs being installed in Preservation Park at historic sites.

**D. High School Diversity Council**

Nikita Pandya has resigned from the Cultural Commission as she is at college now. Joe Kvorciak will reach out to Nick Brandon at Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

**E. Resident Art Groups**

**Michigan Philharmonic**

- February 16, 2019 – Swing concert – sold out.
- PARC lost the millage. Wilcox Foundation grant received. Plans are to build a 200-seat theater in the cafeteria of PARC Building.

**D&M Art Studio**

- Celebrating 32 year anniversary this month.
- 40 adults registered in water color class at the Summit/free Veteran's classes.
- Teen Scholarship Program applications due by end of March to Sharon Dillenbeck. Patriotic theme.
- Working with Senior Centers and Assisted Living Centers offering art.
- Adult Paint Parties available in partnership with Vintner's Winery.
- Three Cities Art Club – Black History Month exhibit at Westland Gallery.

**Village Theater**

- New renters: Plymouth Christian Academy, Renaissance Players, Main Street Opera.
- Spotlight Players had a very successful year in 2018.
- Launching the Youth Usher Program.
- New Classes – Beginning Guitar and Acting.
- Joe Kvoriak interviewed by "Canton Today."
- New restaurant, Maraschino's, opening in March – next to VT.

**Upcoming Performances at VT**

- March 15-16 Main Street Opera: HMS Pinafore
- April 13 Second City Comedy
- April 18 Mario The Maker Magician
- May 11 Prince Tribute
- June 23 PRIDE Celebration

**ROUND TABLE**

**A. Additional Public Comment**

- Thank you extended to Ken Bhuvu for serving as 2018 Chairperson.
- Congratulations extended to Mary Falzon on her retirement in March.

**B. Next Meeting**

Thursday, May 9, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. – Canton Admin. Building – Lower Level Room E.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by Mullinax, supported by Bhuvu to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.