

**CANTON LEISURE SERVICES
CULTURAL COMMISSION
June 10, 2021**

ROLL CALL

Attendance: Samar Sakakini, Kira Macyda, Bill Tesen, Elena Semenov, Anthony Davis, Hasina Abdu, Jason Davis, Neha Rao, Greg Hohenberger, Jessica Bunjik (Recorder)

Absent: Nick Brandon, Thomas Paden, Darian Moore, Virginia Thorne-Herrmann, Husain Haidri, Cornelis VanSpronsen, Ken Bhuva

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Tesen, supported by J. Davis to accept the agenda of June 10, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Tesen, supported by Ganguly to accept the meeting minutes of February 11, 2021 and November 12, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A. How Do You Spell Canton? Update

- One submission so far
- Anthony Davis and Tania Ganguly to do a PSA with Cable
- Promote contest at Farmers Market and Thursday Night Concerts – Greg will check with staff on getting a table set up

B. Chair Report

- Testing and Vaccinations thank you to volunteers
- Lunch and Learn
- Master Plan e-mail sent by Jessi for open houses. If available, stop by one of the dates to provide feedback
- Banner – Cor to create a design
- Participation of events:
 - Tania participated in the Memorial Day event, Board approved Resolutions for Arab American Heritage Month and Asian American and Pacific Islanders Month
 - Hasina participated in the art display

NEW BUSINESS

A. Strategic Plan – subcommittee reviewed and updated

- Jessi to send the Strategic Plan to the committee

- Meet in September to review for 2022 – Tania interested in sitting on next review committee
 - Motion to approve updates to the Strategic Plan 2021 by Kira and second by Tania. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Artist Laureate History**
- Raise awareness – make an art hub
 - Past subcommittee already developed a program
 - Roughly \$1500 donated to the program (need \$10k)
 - Challenges faced: Lack of funds and space
 - Partnership for the Arts was to provide a space but backed out, wanting to rent it out
 - Program is ready to go, just need the commitment from the group to fundraise and then run it
 - Jason Davis offered to spearhead the fundraising portion. Jessi to send an information on file to review
 - Kira and Elena to assist.
 - Jessi and Greg to reach out to Sara Rudolf from LSAC to assist since fundraising is what she does
- C. Fundraising Committee**
- Cor not at meeting to discuss T-shirt design
- D. Data Source**
- Develop a spreadsheet with contact information for future needs. Tania offered to create the spreadsheet. Will work with Jessi and Peg to get information.
- E. Who's Your Hero Project**
- Launched May 1, 2021. No form submitted yet. Will do a PSA for this as well.
- F. Program scoring system for Cultural Inclusiveness**
- One of the New Boards goals to improve inclusivity in Canton's programs
 - Score system to evaluate Leisure Services programs for their inclusivity
 - Take a look at what Canton offers to score and see how we can make it better
 - Looking for help to come up with a criterion – Hasina to help
 - Set up a meeting time after July in-person. Working on a hybrid to in-person and zoom

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

A. Partnership for the Arts & Humanities

- The Village Arts Factory continues to thrive, with 17 small business occupants and a number of events planned.
- Art in Bloom, a handmade artisan market was held with hundreds of patrons in attendance over two days.
- A Juneteenth event is being held this Friday night, entitled "My Life and Voice Matters Too" and will feature Teen Black and White Photography and Art Exhibit. It will be open to the public from 7:30-8:30 and is being held in partnership with the Ypsilanti Chapter of Jack and Jill of

American, Inc. and the Canton Police Department. Tickets and information can be found by visiting the Village Arts Factory website or Facebook page.

- The next fundraiser to be held will be “An Evening for the Arts” on July 29th at Canton’s Village Theater at Cherry Hill. All of the proceeds from this fundraiser will go to support the Village Arts Factory. For those who would like to attend in person, the evening will include a strolling dinner, live entertainment and an exciting array of silent auction items. There are a limited number of tickets available for the in-person experience at \$75 each. If you would like to also attend the afterglow party at Maraschino’s Pub, next level tickets are available at \$100 each. For art supporters who are not yet ready to venture out, you can still get in on the fun online. Tickets for the virtual experience are \$25 each and include a link to view the on-stage entertainment performed that night, and to place bids in the online auction. Check out our website for updates and links to purchase tickets: <https://villageartsfactory.com/an-evening-for-the-arts/>
- The Partnership is also currently making plans to participate in the Rally on Ridge event, as well as hosting “Cars and Concerts” at the Village Arts Factory, which is a series of Wednesday nights in July-August featuring local classic car enthusiasts and musical entertainment. In addition, a “Cherry Hill Village Festival” is being planned with the Chamber of Commerce, and a golf outing has been scheduled for September to be held at Pheasant Run. More information and details to come.

B. Multicultural Committee

- No update. Samar asked if there will be an International Festival. Greg was unsure.

C. Historical Society - <http://www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org/>

- Cady-Boyer Barn burned down Memorial Weekend
- Fire did a good job watering down the surrounding areas to keep the fire from spreading
- Museum grand opening to be held on June 19th from 11-3pm – Who’s Farm Do You Live On?
 - Will resume normal hours Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays
- B4 still on – working on logistics
 - Will need volunteers
 - Tickets increase in price - \$30 online and \$40 at the door
 - 3 beer vendors so far and bands are lined up

D. Resident Art Groups

Michigan Philharmonic - <https://www.michiganphil.org/>

- Live concerts start June 26th at Kellogg Park @ 7pm
- Another concert on July 10th at Kensington
- Check website for changes

Dance

- Doing dance outdoors at the Summit and on stage at the theater based on restrictions
- Will e-mail out schedule

PCEP

- Did ad on school announcement
- Signed up for some enrichment classes
- Resolution to Monica Merritt on Asian Awareness

Update from Greg:

Covid:

- Working on getting back to normal. Currently 50% capacity for indoor gatherings. No restrictions for outdoor gatherings regardless of vaccinations.
- Indoor facilities – if unvaccinated need to wear mask and social distance; if vaccinated do not need to wear mask
- Early July the mask requirements is anticipated to go away.

Summit:

- Planning on moving fitness equipment back to fitness center at the Summit
- Pool is open
- Biggest challenge is staffing

Barn

Waiting on report from structural engineer to determine the condition of the silo – lots of heat damage

- Insurance to authorize for cleaning company to come out to remove debris
- Pavilion completed but lost electricity – being restored today
- Work with insurance company on funding and future development
- Assessing replacement value as it was – possibility moving another barn to that location or build a new one – unsure
- Anticipate noting happening in 2021. Need to finalize insurance, assess what we want to replace the barn with, bid out, etc. Most likely will not construct till 2023

Staffing

- Jen P position – not filled yet
- Senior specialist – resigned position – already posted
- Brad Sharp (Facilities Manager) – retired – position posted

Village Theater

- Now open
- First live event was live streamed – Dancin' Feet
 - Audience was about 100
 - Now 50% capacity

- July 1st – open back up to full capacity
- Part time staff returning – some left due to time off
- New Coordinated hired – Benjamin starts on 7/6
- New clerk – starting June 22nd
- Events/recitals every weekend for the rest of the year
- All seats are installed
- Samar would like a tour with Ben

ROUND TABLE

A. Quarter Report

- If you participate in any events or gathers, please fill out report and send to Jessi before next meeting

B Additional Public Comment

- None

C. Thursday, August 12, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

Motion to move the August 12, 2021 and the November 18, 2021 Cultural Commission Meetings to 6pm and will be a hybrid meeting of in-person and virtual. Motion made by Ganguly and second by Jason Davis. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

Motion by J. Davis, supported by A. Davis to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.