

**CULTURE & ARTS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
FLAHERTY CONFERENCE ROOM, SEYMOUR, CT 06483  
1 First Street, Seymour, CT 06483  
Tuesday June 9, 2026 - 7:00 P.M.**

**Members Present:** Judy Simpson, Priscilla Altorelli, Linda Bellavance, and Diane Ricciardi, and Mary Barbin

**Members Absent:** Crystal Richard and Theresa Dunlop

- **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

J. Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:00

All present stood and recited to Pledge of Allegiance

- **Public Comment**

Officer Michael Fappiano discussed with the Commission the opportunity to have a Night Parade First Night (Dec 5<sup>th</sup>). After a detailed discussion with Officer Fappiano, the Commission identified a number of concerns: parking limitations, traffic overload with individuals attending or participating the parade-leaving the parade while First Night members attempting to participate in First Night. Santa appearing in the parade as well as arriving "on the Train" for first night. Logistical issues for both Fire Departments who will participate in both the parade as well as First Night. Additional concerns with vendors that will be participating First Night and interfering with parade route-Basement System and Petting Zoo/P rides. Additional concerns identified and discussed with too many activities for the children- Parade would start at approx. 3:00 with First Night 4:00- 7:00.

- **Approval of April Minutes**

April minutes approved by M. Barbin and second by P. Altorelli

- **Treasurer's Report**

P. Altorelli reviewed the last 2025-2026 budget with balance for Contracted Services \$323.89 and Supplies balance \$89.01. Treasurer report approved by D. Ricciardi and second by M. Barbin.

- **Spring Activities**

- The Commission will sponsored/donated funds for two programs at the Elementary schools.

The first program for Bungay School is the State Troubadour program. The CT ST Troubadour is Charlie Widmer. The Connecticut State Troubadour is an honorary position, established in 1991, that serves as an ambassador of music and song while promoting cultural literacy across the state. The role exists to celebrate Connecticut's culture, history, and stories through music, fostering a deeper connection between communities and the arts. Feedback received was the program went well.

Chatfield-LoPresti will be doing a BMX anti bullying program. The Commission will donate a \$1000 for this school program.

The Commission will continue to sponsor the bus trip to Historical Society (\$600) and provide \$250 for the 8-grade school dance.

For 2027, the Commission discussed paying the entire bill for the DJ at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade school dance (\$500 potential costs.)

- **2026 Summer Concerts Series**-all bands booked (7 total: Dates: Jun 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, August 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Sept 5<sup>th</sup>.) All contracts for the summer concerts have been signed. Concert raffle prizes have been purchased -7 tables, 4 chairs and 3 coolers. Grand Concept hired contractor for the banners. Previous banner cost \$120 per banner, '26 costs \$160 per banner. Contractor met request timeline.

- **Chairman's Report**

2026 Downtown Trick or Treat Day will be on October 31.- Two additional Scarecrows frames will be built.

2026 Santa Seymour Visit will be on December 5th.

Additional storage container ordered and purchased-pending arrival.

The Commission members purchased: Buttons to recognize Commission members and distributed. Christmas hats to be worn for Christmas events still to be purchased. L. Bellavance is handling these items.

**Items for Christmas next year:** C. Richard will be our liaison with Basement System for future Christmas activities-continue to sponsor Petting Zoo & Pony Rides/ food and toy drive. C. Richard to check with Basement System to see if they want to sponsor Halloween activities. Continue to work with Gigging Pig-Face Painting (D. Ricciardi). Considering someone new for hair tinsel. Commission would also like to have heaters and additional lighting at the Town Hall - for writing letters to Santa.

- **Public Comment** None
- **Adjournment**

J. Simpson requested a motion for meeting adjournment at 7:54, P. Altorelli made a motion and M. Barbin second.

Minutes: Respectfully submitted by D. Ricciardi