



## Town of Seymour

1 First Street • Seymour, Connecticut 06483  
Telephone: 203-888-2511

### CULTURE & ARTS COMMISSION

MEETING  
March 11, 2008  
SEYMOUR TOWN HALL  
7:00 PM FLAHERTY HALL

COPY RECEIVED  
DATE: 3/17/08  
TIME: 4:30 PM  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Members Present: Judy Simpson Valerie D'Anna Linda Bellavance  
Priscilla Altorelli Mary Reyher Jane Hull Ann Conroy

Others Present: Jeri Swinik  
Representatives from the Shops in Seymour:  
Tickled Pink, Browsing Place, Marzi's and Prime Pastimes

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM, members recited the Pledge of Allegiance

**DownTown Merchants:** Linda Bellavance addressed the representatives from the Shops in Seymour. She explained what arrangements had already been made concerning a Block Dance downtown. After being approached by the First Selectman, Robert Koskelowski and the chairman of the Finance Board, Trish Danka, Culture and Arts had agreed to hold a Block Dance on Saturday Sept. 6, 2008. This event will be run in conjunction with First Saturday, held by the downtown merchants. The dance will run from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Flashback will be the band performing at the event. They will be located in the parking lot at the intersection of First and Bank Streets. Traffic will be blocked from Main to Waklee and from the entrance of Walgreen's to Rt. 67 at Columbus Street. Culture and Arts will pay for the band and the police. Merchants were asked to come back at a later date to report to the Commission on what if any special arrangements have been made. It was stated that this event WILL NOT be held if it rains!

**Strand Theater:** Jeri Swinik, Strand Theater Manager, reported to Board members that the total intake for the month of February was \$5,226.00. She also reported that she had rented out the theater in February for \$492.00 to Kindercare Nursery School. Jeri stated to the Commission that she was very disappointed that the Commission had decided to use the Strand for the summer concert's rain locations. She felt that it would have a large impact on the movie attendance on Sundays because she has found that the theater patrons like a later movie on a summer Sunday afternoon. Judy Simpson assured her that we had looked into other options but that there was nothing available which would not cost the commission money. She was assured that we would try this arrangement for this season and review the figures in the fall. She was asked to be sure

that the movie patrons had vacated the theater no later than 5:00 PM on those designated Sundays.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes reviewed, Mary Reyher motioned the Minutes be accepted as read, Priscilla Altorelli seconded the motion

**VOTE:** 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Disqualify

**Treasurer's Report: Report** given by Ann Conroy

The only bills paid since last month were the electricity bills totaling \$577.14

Culture and Arts balance to date is \$23,495.82

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Valerie D'Anna and a second by Jane Hull

**VOTE:** 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Disqualify

**Grant Report:** Report given by Valerie D'Anna

Valerie reported to the Board that the Grant we had submitted for publication costs had been rejected. It had been explained to her that we did not include all the information regarding the line items for the Strand Theater i.e.: oil and electricity.

**Chairman's Report:** Report given by Judy Simpson, chairman

1. Parks Dept. had approved all dates requested for French Park
2. Linda Bellavance, Culture and Arts member, had made the suggestion that we use students from Seymour High School's Transitional Class to clean the Strand Theater each week. Judy reported to the Commission that 2 students and 1 teacher would go to the theater each week and clean as Jeri Swinnik had done in the past. Robert Koskelowski has approved this and agreed to pay the students minimum wage for 2 hours each week. The students will begin to work there on Monday March 17, 2008. It was reported to the Commission that these students will continue to do this during all school and summer vacations.
3. Linda Bellavance was asked to send out a letter to David Keyser, Exec. Dir of the Housing Authority, inviting the seniors living in the Smith House and the Norman Ray Housing facility to attend the summer concerts. Bus service would be provided and paid for by the selectman.  
A second letter is needed to the First Selectman for a timer to be placed on the marquee at the Strand so the lights are not on all week when the theater is closed.
4. Budget hearing was attended by members of the Commission explaining our request for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. The Finance Brd. was very receptive to our requests and very complimentary regarding this Commission's events.

5. Lease suggestions had been sent to the First Selectman and we will meet with him And the Town Attorney prior to the signing of the new lease.

**Concert Updates: Report:** given by Mary Reyher

All contracts have been sent out to all performing bands  
Additions to the Concerts signs will be made to include the rain location of the Strand Theater and a few additional band names will be order for the new bands performing. Mary also stated that she would donate 20 stacking chairs to the commission for use by the seniors who are bussed to the concerts in the Park.

**Old Business:** It was reported that we could do a flyer for Culture and Arts events to be placed in the Valley Gazette for a Seymour- wide distribution (4,500 households) for a total of ~~\$365.00~~ **\$230.00** for the paying of delivering the inserts and **\$135.00** for the printing of the flyers by Arrow printers in Ansonia. Jane Hull will design and arrange the printing and delivering of the flyers. Flyers should be distributed in the June 12, 2008 Valley Gazette delivery.

Linda Bellavance submitted an estimated for the 6 flower containers to be refilled for Memorial Day, with fall replacements and Christmas replacements from J & J Gardens. Priscilla Altorelli will handle getting the PO's submitted.

There will be no meeting in April; the Board will meet next on May 13, 2008.

Motion made by Priscilla Altorelli, second by Mary Reyher

**VOTE:    6 Yes            0 No            0 Abstain            0 Disqualify**

Motion to adjourn meeting made at 8:40 PM by Priscilla Altorelli and second by Valerie D'Anna

**Vote:        6 Yes            0 No            0 Abstain            0 Disqualify**

Respectfully Submitted,



Linda Bellavance  
Secretary