

Milford Cultural Council: Independence Day Music Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Room 14, Milford Town Hall

In Attendance: Geri Eddins, Patty Salomon, Mike Visconti

Absent: Christine Daddario, Vinnie Kiejzo

Guests: Paul Surapine, Bernadette Stockwell

Audience: Resident Jamie Wheelock was in attendance, but left when he understood this was a subcommittee meeting.

A. Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. Discussion: Advocacy and Assisting CHSO with Fundraising for Fourth of July

Geri explained to Mike and Patty that Paul and Bernadette would be bringing a draft of a letter for us to review. The letter would be addressed to potential donors asking for funds to underwrite the costs of having Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra perform for Independence Day Fireworks event. The letter would be from both Claflin Hill and the MCC. It was decided that we would need to present the letter to our next full Council meeting for approval. Reaching out to the Lions Club on a collaboration of the event, as well as possible donors, was also discussed.

C. Discussion with Claflin Hill

Bernadette and Paul arrived at 7:30 p.m. and distributed copies of the letter. Geri, Mike, and Patty agreed that it looked good and explained the need for the Council to approve. The July 3rd event will be titled the "Independence Day Spectacular." The performance would include the full symphony and Greater Milford Community Chorus and would begin at 8:15 p.m., following the DJ music that is typically provided by the Lions Club.

Paul has a list of businesses he would like to send the letter to first—to have first dibs at this sponsorship opportunity. The letter will be mailed before Thanksgiving pending MCC approval. He and Bernadette emphasized that new money raised for this event cannot replace regular, existing donations to CHSO. They both also noted the need to double check the budget amount, which is currently \$20K.

Paul also suggested that checks be made out to Milford Cultural Council rather than Claflin Hill. Mike and Patty asked if this would be possible. Geri offered to follow up with the Finance Director.

PR was briefly discussed. Most outreach is available free, but we discussed the possibility of printing lawn signs and large signs displaying names of sponsors at the performance.

Geri asked that Paul and Bernadette let her know what else they need assistance with.

Action Items

- Paul and Bernadette will finalize letter and send to Geri before MCC's next meeting on Nov. 18.
- Geri will send the letter to all Council members before the meeting so they can read in advance and vote to approve on Nov. 18.
- Geri will follow up with Finance Director regarding the acceptance of donations and later disbursement to CHSO.
- Paul will follow up with Lions Club. He will also follow up with Jim Assam to see if he can once again get support from the Parks Dept.
- Geri will put asking the Town for \$5K to assist with the funding as an agenda item on the MCC December meeting agenda.

D. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Eddins

October 25, 2019