

**TOWN OF VERNON
VERNON ARTS COMMISSION
Minutes of January 6, 2014**

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VERNON TOWN CLERK
14 JAN 13 PM 1:37

Commissioners (C) & Associate Commissioners (A) Present:

Thomasina Clemons (A)	Bobbie Orne (C)
Sandra Justin (C)	Lisa Ouellette (C)
Andrea Nardi (A)	Bill Walach (C)

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Acting Chair Bill Walach. One item (VAC 2013 Report On Cultural and Artistic Activities) was added to the Agenda by unanimous agreement.

MINUTES: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as circulated. ^{December 2, 2013}
Unanimously approved. ^

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Town Account	\$2,457.01
FVAC Account	\$1,947.86

The Treasurer distributed a detailed financial report. A motion was made & seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Update on Proposed Regional Arts Meeting.** Thomasina reported she has been in contact with John Cusano (CT Department of Travel & Leisure – Office of the Arts) & relayed our ideas for a possible regional arts conference. He said he and his collaboration colleague regularly assist local arts groups and are given release time to do so. Discussion ensued regarding whether the VAC should request assistance from this office in developing the proposed conference. Lisa and Sandy have volunteered to join Andrea and Thomasina's committee. There will be further update at the LTP discussion on January 13th.
- **VAC-sponsored Vernon Public Schools Arts Programs:** Lisa has re-contacted all schools which did not respond to the VAC's announcement regarding funding program for Elementary School Arts programs. To date only two schools have not responded – Maple Street and Northeast Schools.
- **Proposed VAC Collaboration with Community Organizations:** Bill met recently with board members of the **Vernon Historical Society** to further the discussion regarding a jointly-sponsored program on "dance." Bill discussed his recent outreach efforts with other community organizations: The **Vernon Senior Center** is interested in presenting a program in June – Bill suggested they apply to VAC for possible funding. Bill's contact (Alan Slobedion) with the **Vernon Community Network** described some of their programs and need for funding and Bill relayed VAC's Funding Application process. Bill also talked with April Zadrozny, a therapist at **The Bridge Family Center** as well as a

representative from Kidsafe CT located on Elm Street in Rockville. Bill has not been in further contact with the CT Army band group.

Lisa volunteered to do "follow up" e-mails with the (above) community organizations. It was also suggested and unanimously agreed that VAC provide business cards for members – important when making new contacts. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Contact List for Town Council and Administrators and Board of Education.**
Computer problems have delayed distribution – list will be forthcoming at February meeting.
- **Report on Vernon Community Co-Op Organizational Meeting:** Bobbie & Ginny attended. Organizers/Facilitators: Jon Roe, Ann Letendre and Nancy Strong. Stated Purpose: "...to explore how Vernon's small history, arts and preservation organizations might work together to better accomplish our missions. By coordinating activities and sharing ideas, experiences and resources we can each be more effective." Eleven invited organizations sent representatives to the meeting. More organizations will be added. Discussion: Challenges & Possibilities, Organization & Procedures. Next meeting in January - follow-up communications.
- **2013 Report on Cultural and Artistic Activities:** Draft/outline presented by Andrea - needs elaboration – Lisa volunteered to assist. Will have ready for January 13th meeting. May be useful for presentation with VAC budget (Town Council meeting) or as a stand-alone. Bill will speak with Erin Brown (Vernon Chorale) about possibly doing a (very) short presentation at Citizen's Forum/ Town Council – illuminates VAC's support for the arts in Vernon.

The next meeting will be Monday, February 3rd at 7 Pm at VCAC. Irma Carter will be Acting Chair. Please send all Agenda items to her and please let her know if you are unable to attend.

Respectfully Submitted,


Bobbie Orne, Secretary