

Edison Township Cultural Arts Commission (ETCAC)
Meeting Minutes - January 14, 2025 5:45 pm

Taken by Michelle Sudhakar

Chairperson: Tony Massaro
Vice Chair: Lois Tarr
Secretary: Christine McCann
Council Liaison: Margot Harris

Members in Attendance: Tony Massaro, Margot Harris, Kathleen Carlucci, Jayesh Mehta, Lois Tarr, Judy Tyndall, Michelle Sudhakar, Ujwal Kasthala
(Not present: Varsha Naik, Christine McCann)

The meeting started at: 5:57

Nov 12th 2024 Minutes approval call, second by Kathleen approved by all

Tony Massaro (Chair):

1. Reiterated item upper case C and item D from the Nov 12th 2024 meeting.
2. Shared the Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Initiative (a grant for art) email shared by Bob. He will get a hard copy and the team can discuss the feasibility of applying.
3. Reach out to Ross (EHS principal) about using the auditorium as a backup venue for the jazz festival in case of rain.
4. Shared 2025 upcoming meeting dates which are:
 - a. February 11
 - b. March 11
 - c. April 8th
 - d. May 6th
 - e. June 12th (Thursday)
 - f. July 8th
 - g. August 5th
 - h. September 9th

Margot Harris:

1. To celebrate Women's History Month (March), the town will honor women from Edison who have served on the town council, and were school principals, by displaying their pictures accompanied by a short bio.
2. Will talk to the Mayor about the possibility of hosting the Jazz Festival (Friday, Sept 26th) and the Edison Fall Family Spectacular (Sat, Sept 27th) at the same menu to help streamline the setup process

Kathleen Carlucci:

1. A new display case for the gallery, donated by the proprietor's house, is currently missing a glass panel, which Bob will replace.
2. A group of high school students expressed interest in displaying their work during Hispanic Heritage Month and have been referred to Mary McVoy.
3. The local bank could be a potential source of grants. Suggest brainstorming this opportunity further and forming a sub-committee to oversee and manage the project.

Jayesh Mehta:

1. Curious about ways to raise money
2. Wanted to know if it is possible to book the auditorium at JPHS or EHS

Lois Tarr:

1. Discussed potential fundraising opportunities that could arise if the committee obtains a license to organize raffles
2. Suggested organizing a symphony for adults (a similar program exists in East Brunswick). This program is open to any adult musician who would like to perform and would need a teacher to manage the program
3. Ferrante house is currently suspended and not likely to be available for 2025

Judy Tyndall:

1. The jazz festival is scheduled for Friday, September 26th
2. Shared the expense reports from the 2024 Jazz Festival
3. Discussed the possibility of the town contributing to the jazz festival. Traditionally, towns contribute to help offset hosting costs and as a gesture of support. In addition to the grants that Edison receives, the festival budget covers expenses such as advertisements, schedules, flyers, banners, and more
4. Supports the suggestion to create a sub-committee to focus on fundraising
5. Reach out to Christine to help connect with her daughter's dance group

Michelle Sudhakar:

Nothing new to share

Ujwal Kasthala:

1. Interested in joining the Jazz festival committee and assisting with raising funds

Next meeting is February 11th

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm