

Edison Township Cultural Arts Commission (ETCAC)

Meeting Minutes - February 11, 2025 5:45 pm

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

Members in Attendance: Tony Massaro, Christine McCann, Lois Tarr, Diana Joffe, Michelle Sudhakar, Kathleen Carlucci, Margot Harris, Judy Tyndall, Ujwal Kumal Kasthala
(Not Present: Varsha Niak, Jayesh Mehta)

The meeting started at 5:46:

- A. Approval of January 14, 2025 minutes Lois, Dianna second.
- B. Reorganization must occur every year in January:
 - 1. Secretary:
Nomination(s) Christine McCann by Kathleen Carlucci, 2nd Diana
Vote - The commission voted yes unanimously.
 - 2. Vice Chair:
Nomination(s) Lois Tarr by Kathleen Carlucci, 2nd Christine
Vote - The commission voted yes unanimously.
 - 3. Chair:
Nomination(s) Tony Massaro by Kathleen Carlucci, 2nd Lois
Vote - The commission voted yes unanimously.
- C. Reference Resolution R. xxx-03202 / Member Terms
Kathleen, Michelle, Diana expiring 3/13/25. Need an official email to Mayor Sam Joshi, CC:Clerk Cheryl Russamano to renew their terms and to add Don Tarr as Alternate #1 to the ETCAC. The commission voted yes unanimously.
Varsha, Lois, Judy - Term Expires 3/13/26
Tony, Christine, Ujwal, Jayesh - Term Expires 3/13/27
- D. From the Chair:
 - a. Asphalt/Bloomberg Grant - As of now not happening.
 - b. Jazz Festival, September 26, 2025 - Not attending.
Mayor not interested in county events. (See Judy below)
 - c. Gallery Display - March: Women's History Month
- E. Around the table:

Kathleen - Spoke to Bob Diel re: application because Mary was out. EHS students with the Hispanic Club will fill out the proper information for a display in The Gallery. Looking at April for their display.

Judy - Had a meeting with Mayor Joshi and Bob Diel re: 9/26/25 Jazz Festival. Mayor does not want Edison to participate in the county festival. He feels Edison can do a Jazz Festival better. Bob was not impressed with the County's advertising and said it was no good all around. They were both dismissive to Judy on all points. Judy was speechless at this response. She relayed this to the County and Margot. Once we are out of the festival with them, we are out. Edison Jazz Festival @ Lake Papaiani possible August date? Judy will call to set up a 15 minute meeting with the Mayor re: funding, breakdown, logistics, etc. Tony plans to attend with Lois.

Lois - East Brunswick Community had a Sinfonia in November. She would like to do this in Edison. She asked Christine to put feelers out to Music/Orchestra Teachers at JP Stevens. Lois shared the program with the Commission. Lois recommended the empty case in the Gallery to still be used by Police and Fire at this time. She also brought up fundraising ideas for Jazz Festival ie: getting a license to do a raffle since more funding is needed. New DPW Tony Kosta.

Margot - Women's History Month - Plan was to celebrate women in Edison, Council, Principals, etc. and their accomplishments. Now the Town (Mayor Joshi and Bob) is having a brunch on 3/6/25 @ The Pines honoring only 1 person. Margot is confused about what we are. The Ferrante House is a no go; The Performing Arts Building is a no go and now we aren't participating in the County Jazz Festival. Will ask the Mayor. "What is our (ETCAC) Purpose?"

Michelle - Utility boxes at a stand still. Lois will ask the secretary what the process is for this to get off the ground. How can we move forward with this venture?

Christine - Thank you to Tony and Diana for the printer paper to be used for Agendas and Meeting Minutes. Will inquire with JP Stevens Orchestra and Music teachers about a possible Sinfonia.

Diana - Still feels selling Brick pavers is a good way to raise funds.

Ujwal - Friend who donated last time to the Jazz Festival is willing to do it again! Will bring a cake and snacks to the 3/11 meeting celebrating our 1 year as a Commission. Will organize a group photo.

F. Adjournment: 6:38pm Michele, Ujwal
Next meeting is March 11, 2025-All agreed to invite Mayor Joshi, Bob Diel and Tony Kosta