

FTCAC Meeting

October 8, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Attendees: Theresa Seggio, Jael Davis, Robyn Mandalakis, Rana Jawad, Monica Weeks, Aquiyila Duncanson, Laura Nichols, Brenn Hawkins, Isaiah Asmani (staff)

Terri opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

Council Additions

- Aquiyila and Sandra submitted their resumes for the 11th seat on the FTCAC. Sandra put in her resume in February and they haven't done anything since. Terri followed up and they sent the resumes to the Township Council for review. The Council will get back to Terri.
- Terri explained that she obtained additional information and documents from Zach, the prior Chairperson of the Council. Tanya also reached out to Michael, the prior Chairperson and received additional documents - bylaws and other things. Terri explained that we have an Executive Board Meeting October 12 to discuss terms, bylaws, etc.
- Brenn asked for clarification on how long the terms are if it took him a year to get appointed, She noted that there is a possibility to amend bylaws.

Calendar Access

- Terri explained that she sent everyone the link to access the calendar. Terri/Tanya will try to keep events updated and figure out how to send notifications

Franklin Got Talent

- Terri asked if anyone can take flyers to local businesses. She already sent it to various outlets - Chambers, participants, and our list. Isaiah will send it to the libraries and the youth center.

Franklin Day

- Terri thanked everyone who came out to support or helped with the event.
- She said everything went really well. There were 12 performances and the community band performance was great.
- Terri said tech was confirmed for lights and they will take care of sound. They have all of the students in place.
- Volunteers: Jael, Rana and Robyn will be able to volunteer
- Maxine will assist with balloons.
- Set up begins at 5pm; Terri wants volunteers to be there 6/6:15pm
- Isaiah said that they have the program, but he has to play with it to make sure that it will work. Jael asked how we will be shown how to use the program.
- Terri asked about where to take the money. Isaiah said he will ask Stephen what to do with the money. Terri realized that the flyer doesn't say "cash at the door." Isaiah will add it to the flyer and repost it.

- Terri said that Modern Motion Dance has been added

Lassos Group

- Terri introduced Teresa from the Lassos Group, whose main office is located in New Brunswick came to discuss an idea of doing an event for Hispanic Heritage month.
- She said that she is looking to reconnect the dance groups that are associated with them. They also educate people on Day of the Dead, and other issues that affect them. Outside of the arts and culture space, they also provide legal rights and other types of assistance.
- They have an event on October 13 on African American and Native American Reparations at Rutgers. The event is a working table to remember and amplify the indigenous cause. The Rutgers Language Interpretation Department is helping people to get certified at the event.
- She suggested that she is happy to help in any capacity possible.
- Tanya reiterated that we want to include the Spanish population further in our events, possibly for a Hispanic Heritage Month.
- Terri also suggested a table at the Flea Market to advertise their organization and perhaps another for crafts.
- Robyn also asked whether it would be possible to teach a dance class similar to our previous dance nights.
- She mentioned that November is also Indigenous Peoples Month. They have dancers, painters, and weavers to offer that sort of event. She said that perhaps we can apply for a small grant together to fund this.

Summer Concert Series

- Terri shared that there were more than 200 people at High in the Mid 80s
- Terri shared community feedback
 - People wanted food trucks at the next one
 - People suggested a 50s or Sinatra night
- Terri suggested that if you know bands please share them with her so we can be ready for next year.

Black History Month

- Tanya shared that she is chairing the Black History Month event. It is the 100th year celebration; she wants to merge it with the 250th celebration of the country.
- Tanya said she will meet with the small group next week to discuss ideas. She has an idea to include artists that live in the town on the panel and to display their art.
- She said she sent out an email to people who reached out in the past who expressed an interest in participating. She suggested a QR code for people to sign up to volunteer rather than paper forms. Isaiah said they can make a Seamless Doc and send an excel doc with the extracted information.
- Tanya thinks that the middle school on Hamilton Street would be better. Terri asked about the space needed. Tanya said the cafeteria, lobby and auditorium for 10a-6p.

- Terri noted timelines for buying items or posters. Tanya said she will connect with Isaiah to discuss logistics for posters and the budget will be ready by mid-November.

Flea Market Partnership

- Terri shared possible dates: May 2, 9, 16. We voted on May 16. She will share this information with Kevin who is chairing the event.
- Terri said this seems like something we can further discuss at our November planning meeting since Kevin isn't here today.
- Rana asked for clarification as to whether they charge vendors. Isaiah said yes and he thinks it's \$20-25 per table.

Planning for Next Year

- Terri explained that we did this last year at her house in November to plan for the upcoming year.
- Terri, Tanya, Jael, Kevin, Robyn, Rana, Nicole, and Maxine agreed to attend.
- Everyone agreed to November 6 at 6pm.
- Brenn mentioned keeping rain dates in mind for next year's outdoor events.
- Tanya also said we should keep in mind that next year is 15 years for the Council.
- Terri shared that as a part of the 250 committee, she is opening the year with a salute to America song and dance event, with students from the township schools. She asked if we should do something as a Council in support of the 250th.

December Band Concert

- Laura asked about the date. She always thought it was December 12, but it seems like we have the 13th scheduled.
- Robyn said she thinks the 12th is better. Isaiah will change the date to December 12 and the start time will be 7:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.