

Somers Cultural Commission Meeting Minutes
Piedmont Hall September 14, 2026 7:00 p.m.



Present: Pat Bachetti, Sebastian Rider-Bezzera, Neil Connell, Eileen Fedorowich, Dan Fraro, Giselle Genece, Lynne Goss, Ann Levesque, Christine Naserella (chairperson), Terri Schmidt, Gail Tishler.

Absent: Yvonne Besse, John Kelleher, Dave Marti, Terri Titus

Guest: Ann Fraro

Members saluted and pledged our flag. Chris opened the meeting at 7:02.

Secretary's Report: There were no corrections or additions. Eileen motioned to accept the minutes as presented and Seb seconded. Approved.

Correspondence: A card was sent to Liam Obernesser, the volunteer student who did lighting and sound for our July 4th concert at the high school.

A thank you note was received from Ann Levesque thanking the commission for the 10 years she was chairperson and the flowers she received from Chris who replaced her. She appreciated all the years working with everyone and the joy she received. Best of luck, Ann! Great job and thank you for all you did for the commission and our community.

Treasurer's Report: Terri presented the Profit/Loss sheet as of 2026. Also, the Budget to Actual 2025 through 2027. Many thanks, Terri, very clear and understandable. There were no questions or discussion.

Open Discussion: Communication at the concerts and events was mentioned by Ann. We have a reputation as being very friendly and keeping our followers informed. She suggested thanking sponsors and tell them anyone can become a sponsor if they choose. Seb said that sometimes it's different speakers but could do talking points(bullets) for speakers. An issue with parking at concerts this season. People driving over the cones, not listening and ignoring the CRT workers. Next year there will be a special spot cordoned off area for handicapped.

Old Business: The KC Sisters are advertising already for their concert during the Holiday Festival. Ann called and contract to be signed. \$1500 and Chris will work up form to go forward. Sunday following the Holiday Festival the prior day the concert will be held at the Somers Congregational Church 2-3:30. We will provide water for entertainers.

Sponsors of this year's concerts will be receiving thank you notes shortly as Gail and Pat will be taking care of this. The campaign starts again in January. Emails

are great but find in person always better. Suggested we pass out forms at KC Sisters concert and even other winter events Do we have email list for sponsors? Seb said we are paying for a subscription through the town by Mail Chip to send out emails. This will set the stage.

New Business: Question of publicity. Missed opportunity? Instagram account? List of social media schedule. Access FB overall plan, what goes out and when- When to send mailings?

Seb said, example-Friday morning send email for Thursday night concert- big concert of KC Sisters send out Thanksgiving. Send out emails so people have ample notice and can plan. Also church bulletins and library.

Neil reported on the Art Show which is beginning this week. The reception hosted 106 people, 59 artists, 94 paintings. He will start soon to look for a juror for the spring Photography Show.

Chris spoke of the Halloween decorating contest in October. Samantha from the recreation department is on board. Businesses and homes decorated but judged in separate categories. They must be family appropriate and not political. Needs road signage, library, posters, library and senior center bulletins. Work with the Congregational Church "trunk n' treat," October 24. Awards and reception following here at Piedmont.

Future projects- November, Food Drive for Champs Place, December, KC Sisters. January, "Guys Night Out", February, "Black History Month".

Discussion will continue into following months next meeting.

The maintenance and projects at the Piedmont were updated. Todd Roland, head of DEP, said he put the siding/flashing into the Capital budget. Doors to be painted (up and down). Boy Scouts will paint the benches (town will scrape).

Redo the floors after the Art Show-clean and polish. They will be taking the screens off the windows as you can't open them. He will check with Brian on the Wi-Fi situation.

Seb motioned to adjourn, Pat seconded. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Bachetti, secretary

Minutes not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.