

ABCC Approved Minutes 2016/05/10

Acton Town Hall, Room 126, meeting opened at 7:35 p.m.

Attendees: Beth Davis, Linda Mayer, Palma Cicchetti, Ramika Shah, Sheila Hanrahan,
Sunanda Sahay

Absent: Dawn Wang, Kristie Rampton, Nancy Evans

Public: Diana Nestorova

Sunanda moved to approve Minutes 2016/04/08. Ramika seconded. The vote was unanimous to approve.

No public comments.

Treasurer's Report: Ramika presented the Treasurer's Report May 10, 2016. Reviewed funds in Boxborough - \$9307.94 is MCC money, \$191.80 is cumulative interest earned, balance is \$1500.00 (less \$450.00 promised funds) Acton Town Funds have a balance of \$3773.95.

Foreign film series: Beth indicated that the short films night had attendance of 45 people. Twenty five people attended **Gloomy Sunday**, a very gripping movie. There was a discussion about involving the two town libraries and the high school in the future to increase attendance. The films were listed in the Beacon as 'Top 5 Things To Do' and in the Action Unlimited. Very positive reviews received on the Film Series Banner. Unfortunately this week's movie was not published in the Action Unlimited. Beth had requested Acton take down the film festival banner so that it could be hung in Boxborough but they have not yet taken it down. Need a better system for publicizing the films on the ABCC web site. Linda requested each committee member share the next film with at least five people. Next film is **The Lunchbox**.

Oriental Stone Painting date changed to May 21 at the Boxborough Town library. The artist has worked hard at publicizing.

Boxborough Town Funds: Sunanda has not heard back regarding her request for a table at Fifers Day. Sheila made a motion to fund \$500 towards the Fifers Day bands, Linda seconded. The vote was unanimous to approve. Ramika suggested that next year we fund a bench at the Boxborough Library provided that the town will give permission.

Acton Town Funds: Sunanda has not heard back regarding her request for a table at the West Acton Farmer's Market. Linda discussed the proposal from Dawn to plant Japanese trees and Chinese plantings with a path and a small bridge as part of an Asian Pavilion in the Acton Arboretum. Dawn and Hongbing Tang, who are members of the Acton Chinese-American Civic Society, were inspired by a recent visit to a Chinese garden in Wayland. The Acton Arboretum is run by volunteers. Dawn has indicated that the Acton Chinese-American Civic Society may be willing to perform maintenance on the Asian Pavilion in the future. Landd International LLC might be willing to donate services for this project. Linda will contact the Friends of the Acton

Arboretum to determine whether they are interested in supporting this project. The committee would like Linda to continue exploring this idea.

Sunanda proposed changing the meeting night from Tuesday nights to Monday nights effective September 2016. All members present approved. Sunanda will reach out to the absent members to get their feedback.

Palma asked if the town funds any Brazilian events. Beth isn't sure how large the Brazilian population is in Acton and believes the Brazilian community should reach out to the ABCC to recommend an event. Palma suggested starting with a small with an event for children at the library or seeking volunteers via the elementary school newsletters. Palma and Linda will do some research.

Diana will submit her ABCC application as an Acton member. She's away for July and August. She is the current president of the Acton Boxboro Rotary Club, her term expires June 30, 2016. Suman Adishesu, a former ABCC member, has expressed interest in joining the council again. She was our webmaster, so we are thrilled. It will make Acton membership full.

The ABCC web site is implemented with old technology (possibly 8 years old) and it needs to be upgraded and updated. No members knew whether the page is hosted by the town web server. The high school students are interest in working on updating the web site. Beth would like to eliminate having an outside person managing the web site. The current web site is dated and there is too much content, for example it would be preferable to redirect people to Facebook for photos rather than posting photos on the web site. There was a suggestion to post a calendar of ABCC sponsored events on Facebook. Palma will ask the Acton IT department if we can host the ABCC page on the town webserver.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.