

City of Norwich Ellis Walter Ruley Committee  
2016\_09\_12 Ellis Ruley Committee Minutes

Attendance: Frank Manfredi, Lottie B. Scott and Shiela Hayes, Frank Manfredi  
Subcommittee members: Robert Groner, Joe Cooper  
Guest: Sam Browning III

Meeting was convened at 10:05am.

A motion to approve the Minutes of July 7th was made by Lottie B. Scott and seconded by Shiela Hayes. Motion carried.

**Financials:** A motion to accept the Financial Report of \$11,878.69 was made by Lottie B. Scott and seconded by Shiela Hayes. Motion passed.

**Fundraising:**

Lottie reported she has looked at the upcoming events and will continue to pursue a well known act for the Mohegan Sun for the 2<sup>nd</sup> fundraiser. Another option is the Cabaret Theater and Lottie will look into this as an option. Lottie has not received any update on the circle of friends and will continue to pursue these four individuals. A community person has been engaged to host a fundraiser and is still in the planning phases.

**Old Business**

Sam Browning III was invited to speak and share his thoughts on where the public parking spaces will be located. Joe Cooper reminder us to send the letter to Angelo Yeitz to begin cleaning up the property. Bob Groner will prepare plans include laying the milling and clearing the path to where the house once was located. He is also suggesting placing a small water fountain, with benches, plaques and plants. Joe Cooper will provide Bob with a topographical map. We would also install a security camera (possible 2) to secure the area.

Update on the Ellis Ruley Arts Festival – the sub-committee met with Sandra Jeknavorian, of TRCC has set up a meeting at TRCC on Wed. September 21<sup>st</sup> to begin the planning the Festival for Fall of 2017.

In the fall of 2018, Vivian Zoe of Slater is willing to work with us on hosting an Ellis Ruley Exhibit. A meeting will be held in the fall of 2016 to begin the actual planning of the festival and exhibit. Vivian will look into a second reprint of the Ellis Ruley Painting (owned by Slater) as well as a print from another museum.

The Bust of Ellis has been reinstalled and an extension of the loan for another year for the bust was requested.

Update on date for presentation to Norwich City Council on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the informational session will include photos of the property and the sketch of the plans.

**New Business:**

Now that we have some funds we can begin to look for matching funds from the state and other sources. Frank will begin to work on a contract with Writer's Block, Inc. We are looking into having the performance in the spring or summer of 2017. In addition, Ellis Walter Ruley is being honored posthumous at the 100 Men of Color 2016 and we will mention it at the informational. The October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting is cancelled and the next meeting in November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to adjourn was made by Lottie B. Scott and seconded by Shiela Hayes at 10:55am. Motion carried.

Respectively Yours,

Shiela Hayes,  
Secretary