

**Town of Camden Opera House Committee**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**June 11, 2012**

Present: Susan Dorr, Chair; Don White, Select Board liaison, Robert Williams; Kate Barnes. Kerry Hadley, Opera House Manager.

Absent: Raymond Brunyanski; Hal Owen; Aimee Phelan-Deconinck; Maryanne Shanahan.

Meeting called to order at 5:03 PM. Minutes of the May 14, 2012 were approved.

1. Downtown Business Plan.

Sue spoke in favor of the plan at the May 15, 2012 town select board meeting. Her comments acknowledged the importance placed in the plan on the Opera House as a magnet for the town and the need for third floor renovations.

2. Manager's report.

Kerry noted that she had been in contact with the owner of the Mishara Music Label ([www.misharamusic.com](http://www.misharamusic.com)) and had received several CDs to audition as possible performers. She said the performers were talented and that the label willing to have them perform. October/November were target dates for a performance. She will work out details with them. Pricing/program model Kerry will use as artists are extremely talented but mostly unknown is to have several perform in one evening for a low cost. Performers willing to come to obtain name recognition and sell CD's.

Beatles July show producer used kickstart, a fundraising website and show looks to be highly sold and extremely well done.

Kerry has also been reviewing possible movies but had run into some difficulty with Specticast over their use. She had selected some titles only to have the company renege because they were to be shown in other venues in the area that would book them for longer periods or do more business with the companies. She said that some titles needed to be shown for a week rather than one night. Don suggested to contract for a week but show it when there were openings in the calendar. Kerry would like to have a consistent night for movies, i.e. Wednesday, so people will remember more easily.

Kerry said she was thinking of showing movies made in Camden and gave a number of titles. These could be shown throughout the summer and engage tourists. The committee felt that would be well received.

ASCAP indicated they would no longer press the OH for royalties for incidental music played here. Kerry has been trying for 5 years to get them to stop billing her.

Kerry noted that we have added additional information to Opera house history from some work performed by our summer intern. Most notable was fact that a Ming Cho Lee built sets and participated in shows here, and went on to a brilliant career in set design on Broadway, winning Tony and Drama Desk awards and is currently an adjunct professor at Yale. Other noted actors who performed in Camden were also noted, including Eva Gabor and Elaine Stritch.

The next committee meeting is September 10, 2012.

Committee adjourned at 5:50.

Respectfully submitted by Robert Williams