

NCAC Meeting
October 15, 2025
Newnan City Hall

The October 15, 2025 Proposal meeting of the Newnan Cultural Arts Commission (NCAC) met at the City of Newnan, 2nd Floor Conference Room, with Chair Jaami Rutledge presiding. The meeting began at to order at 11:03 a.m. with the following members present:

Joe Arnotti
Bette Hickman
Bob McKoon
Jaami Rutledge, Chair
Mak Strickland
Gabby White, Secretary
Elizabeth Williams
Nora Ann Wood, Vice Chair

Brent Snodgrass, City Leisure Services Director
Madeline Sain, Wadsworth Auditorium Events Coordinator
Jesse Branch, Special Events Coordinator

Jazz in the Park (6/26/26, 7/31/26, 8/28/26)

Motion. (Gabby White) “I move to have a three concert Jazz in the Park series with a \$25,000 budget pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Elizabeth Williams). Adopted. Artists will be picked at a later date.

Newnan Songwriters Festival (January 29-30, 2027)

Motion. (Mak Strickland) “I move to approve the proposal for Newnan Songwriters Festival with dates pending in the amount of \$10,000 pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second** (Elizabeth Williams). Adopted.

Lit Fest (June 6, 2026)

Motion. (Gabby White) “I move to approve option 2 of the Lit Fest proposal budget pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Bette Hickman). Adopted

Newnan Reel Film Festival (Fall '26 or Spring '27)

Motion. (Nora Ann Wood) “I move to have the Newnan Film Festival, date pending with a \$6,000 or less budget pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Mak Strickland). Adopted

Rhapsody in Ebony (March/April '27)

Idea to have this event in conjuncture with Diner en Bleu. **Motion.** (Mak Strickland) “I move to consider Rhapsody in Ebony with Dr. Tia Roper with Madeline reaching out to consider a new date for the 26/27 season pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Elizabeth Williams). Adopted

Diner en Bleu (April 2027)

Idea to have this event in conjuncture with Rhapsody in Ebony as musical artist. **Motion.** (Elizabeth Williams) “I move to have Diner en Bleu in April 2027 with a \$5,500 budget pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Bette Hickman). Adopted

Highland Hearts/Southern Soul (February 2027)

Motion. (Bette Hickman) “I so move to support the Highland Hearts/Southern Soul proposal pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Nora Ann Wood). Adopted. Ayrshire Fiddle Orchestra may be visiting at this time so would be a great combo.

Broadway Under the Stars: Mamma Mia (October 2026)

Motion. (Elizabeth Williams) “I so move to accept Broadway Under the Stars as proposed with a date to be determined pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Mak Strickland). Adopted

Hiplet Ballerinas

The Commission chooses not to pursue this proposal for this upcoming season.

Interactive Classic Movie Series

The Commission chooses not to pursue this proposal for this upcoming season.

Raleigh Ringers (October 2026)

Motion. (Mak Strickland) “I move to accept the proposal for the Raleigh Ringers with more information regarding date availability and routing pricing pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Joe Arnotti). Adopted

The Barter Players: Frosty the Musical (November 21, 2026)

Motion. (Nora Ann Wood) “I move to accept the Barter Platers: Frosty the Musical on November 21, 2026 at Wadsworth Auditorium contingent on block pricing with other vendors pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Mak Strickland). Adopted

Make More Music (March 2026)

Motion. (Gabby White) “I move to make a donation to the Make More Music event pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval.” **Second.** (Joe Arnotti). Adopted. Mak Strickland abstained from vote.

A Night of Comedy with Hugh Howser (September 2026)

Motion. (Mak Strickland) “I move to bring the Night of Comedy with Hugh Howser pending City of Newnan 2026 budget approval to the Wadsworth in the fall of 2026.” **Second.** (Joe Arnotti). Adopted

Unsilent Night (December 5, 2026)

Motion. (Gabby White) “I move to support Unsilent Night in December 2026 by waiving the City park fee based on park availability.” **Second.** (Bette Hickman). Adopted

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:46p.m.

Next regular meeting: November 5, 2025, Newnan City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room, noon – 1p.m.

Gabby White
Secretary, 2025