



TOWN OF MEDWAY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Medway Town Hall

155 Village Street – Medway, MA 02053



Medway Cultural Council

medwayculturalcouncil@gmail.com

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 6, 2023 @ 7:00 pm

Medway Library, Cole Room

Members Attended: Becky Atwood, Crystal Angela, Angelica Crosby, Cyndy Ellis, Gail Hachenburg, Amna Saeed-Kothe, Judith Moffatt, Valerie Shinas, Hazel Warnick, Jordan Warnick, Karyl Wong,

Members Attended via Zoom: Stuthi Balaji

Members Absent: Phil Giangarra, Jyoti Ranjan

Community Members Present: none

Recording Secretary: Marianne Boynton

Mr. Warnick called the Meeting to order at 7:06 pm. The meeting was in person with 10 members attending, 9 in-person and 1 via Zoom.

1. **Approval of Minutes from May 16, 2023**

Ms. Ellis made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 5/16/24 with 1 edit. Ms. Moffatt seconded the motion. Vote was approved unanimously.

#7 LCC Grants – page 4 last sentence change from robotics to posters

2. **Officer's Reports - Treasurer's Report** - Hazel Warnick Discussion and decisions on spending the remainder of Town funds.

Ms. Warnick presented the Treasurer's Report. She mentioned that she entered the expected state payments, even though they have not been received. Some expense checks were cut in June, and she dropped off some more requests this afternoon. Funds remaining are \$665.24 per Ms. Warnick's report, but Town only showing \$165.24, so she temporarily

held off 2nd artist payment to resolve discrepancy in balance and she said some expenses could be paid out of donations until she meets with the Town to resolve.

Ms. Shinas made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Ms. Buckley seconded the motion. Vote was approved, unanimously.

3. Co-Chair's Reports - Gail Hachenburg, Jordan Warnick

1. Select Board Re-appointments/Adjustment Results re: Gail, Stuthi, Hazel, Jordan, Karyl

Mr. Warnick reported that the Select Board meeting last night had re-appointments on the agenda. At the meeting, the Select Board approved extending the terms for Jordan k and Hazel Warnick. Ms. Hachenburg and Ms. Wong were approved to be non-voting members of the council and Ms. Balaji's term was extended to a full 3-year term.

b. Nominations & Elections of Medway Cultural Council Officers - Election of officers at June meeting - Jordan

- Mr. Warnick noted that the council will need members to take over for Ms. Hachenburg and Ms. Wong for at least for one year until they can come back as voting members.
- Ms. Buckley indicated that she would step in as Co-Chair for Fiscal '24. Ms. Hachenburg nominated Ms. Buckley to be Co-Chair for the next year. Ms. Warnick seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.
- Ms. Hachenburg made a motion that Mr. Warnick remain as Co-Chair, Ms. Moffatt seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote. Mr. Warnick accepted.
- Ms. Hachenburg made a motion that Ms. Warnick remain as Treasurer, Ms. Moffatt seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote. Ms. Warnick accepted.
- Ms. Shinas made a motion that Ms. Saeed-Kothe continue as Corresponding Secretary and Ms. Hachenburg seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote. Ms. Saeed-Kothe accepted.
- Ms. Wong will remain as Grant Liaison but will not be able to sign any letters on behalf of the council advising that grants were approved. Council will need to decide by the fall who will step in and sign the letters; it was suggested that it be one of the Co-chairs.

4. Signage - Jordan Warnick

Mr. Warnick reported that the 10 lawn signs came in; they are double sided with wire stands indicating that there is a council-sponsored event and another that is notification of photography at a public event. We also have an upright sign and tablecloth. T-shirts are available at Tri-Valley; council will pay for them, Mr. Warnick will confirm with Tri-Valley the process for members to get their shirts. Ms. Wong said the next event is Tuesday from 6-8, Historical Society at Thayer and that she would get the signs and post.

5. Art In the Park Collaboration with Parks & Recreation – Gail Hachenburg

Ms. Hachenburg received an email from Ms. Harrington about whether we were doing Art in the Park again. This was a one evening outdoor event inviting the community to come together to do art. If interested, we need to get back to Ms. Harrington with a date that would work. Ms. Wong said she was not interested in doing art but would go. Other council members were asked if they were interested. Ms. Buckley offered to work on the event and will coordinate with Ms. Harrington.

6. MaCC Festival Grant Applications - Stuthi Balaji, Angelica Crosby, Judith Moffatt

- a. Diwali festival grant – Ms. Balaji noted that they had an event for the first time last year that was outdoors and potluck at Oakland Park. She wants to apply for MACC Festival grant to make it bigger. She could use these funds towards venue and food costs. She filled out the application and noted that it has to be on behalf of Medway Cultural Council. Some members have reviewed the application and she asked whether other members were interested in reviewing. They are considering the high school for a venue. Ms. Crosby volunteered to assist with reserving the venue. They would like it to be inside so that weather is not an issue. Ms. Saeed-Kothe mentioned that the middle school gym has a larger capacity than the high school. Another option is the St. Joseph's function space. Ms. Balaji said that if they use the high school, performances could be in the auditorium and food and activities in the cafeteria. They have 3 groups interested in performing so far.
- b. Pixie Festival - Ms. Moffatt has enough money for the 2023 event. But before she turns the grant over to the Cultural Council in 2024, she wants to make sure how the event planning would work. Before she applies, she needs to make sure she can use funds in July 2024. Ms. Ellis checked the check grant application for the timing, and it goes through June 30, 2024, so Ms. Moffatt I wait to apply for July 2024.

7. Utility Box Progress -Crystal Buckley

All artists have submitted paperwork to Ms. Warnick. Most artists are going to start in the next few days or weeks. The box near Restaurant 45 is just about completed and Ms. Buckley mentioned that a lot of community members stopped to say how great it was. Many of the remaining artists are either in school or teaching, so waiting for school to finish. Ms. Buckley mentioned that the weather, both rain and heat could impact the timing. The council discussed using our tent to protect from heat/rain during the painting process.

8. Artist Spotlight - FB/Website update - Valerie Shinas, Judith Moffatt

Ms. Shinas met with Ms. Moffatt to work on the website. The Spotlight is paused while they get the website going. All of the people/events are listed, just waiting to confirm You-Tube site and mechanics. Ms. Shinas needs Barry at Medway Cable to give her a tutorial. Ms. Moffatt mentioned that they want to get David Penza's video up because

he's performing at the Pixie Festival. Tina Chemini (T.C. Scoops) would be next. Valerie was able to locate old content and will continue to work on this.

9. Event Committee High Tea - Stuthi Balaji

Ms. Balaji reported that she and Ms. Hachenburg visited The Willows and they do not have availability for several months. They are still trying to find a venue, maybe a Restaurant 45 or Acapulcos.

10. Pixie Festival Discussion - Judith Moffatt

The event is on July 29. Ms. Moffatt is looking into a new food truck. The hot dog man needed to pay for a permit, so he backed out. The TC Scoops truck can do hot dogs. Ms. Moffatt spoke with Derek Kwok at the Board of Health and told him about the popcorn. He indicated that she would need a hand-wash station. She explained that her location is near the bathrooms at Choate Park. Ms. Hachenburg suggested that she check with Ms. Harrington at P&R to clarify what other groups have done and they go back to Derek. Ms. Moffatt has 3 people helping with crafts. She asked the high school drama department to see if anyone wanted to dress as a pixie and help. Need to make some signs that indicate 'Festival Parking'.

11. Update on LCC Grants - Karyl Wong

There are no new updates. The upcoming events are:

- June 13, 6-8 pm – Medway Historical Society's Civil War Letters of George and Emily Ward which was changed from Library to Thayer house. There is a need to update the publicity that it is sponsored by Medway Cultural Council.
- July 19 – Southeastern Massachusetts Community Band at the Senior Center
- July 29 - Pixie Festival at Choate Park
- BaNannies Live! – Ms. Wong is waiting to contact them in June to say that summer is here and try to get a date scheduled. Forwarded all information to Julie Harrington to connect about a date.

12. Science and MCC - Jyoti Ranjan, Jordan Warnick

Ms Ranjan was not here; move to subsequent meeting

13. Pride Day Event - Cyndy Ellis

Ms. Ellis reported that the flags couldn't go up on the original celebration day due to rain. People still came to the event, but they cancelled the band. The flags went up the next morning and people still came. The flags will stay up for the month. They had the money allocated for the band, \$250, and suggested it could be put toward new flags to include the 'I' 'A' in LGBTQIA. Ms. Ellis will look into costs of new, higher quality flags.

14. Priorities for 2024 - Gail Hachenburg, Jordan Warnick

Mr. Warnick suggested that the council discuss events/project for next year in order to solidify a plan for 2024 grants and allocation of funds.

- One priority is Ms. Atwood's Art on the Trail sculpture project. Ms. Atwood met with an artist who talked her out of marble, so it will be bronze. She and Ms. Hachenburg will talk to Erin McCarthy to see if she is available or if she can recommend some other sculptor. The sculpture will be on the trail, near the boardwalk and she Erin will be asked for recommendations for size, *etc.*, and then can estimate costs.
- Ms. Crosby suggested a live music event with multiple ethnic bands at the community farm.
- Ms. Atwood suggested the idea of a poetry contest, possibly made into coloring books or a poster as Mr. Warnick had described earlier (Mr. Warnick & Ms. Buckley to work on it).
- Ms. Crosby and Ms. Buckley expanded this idea to have people write poems or short stories about the electrical boxes and create a book with pictures of boxes and poems.
- Ms. Shinas mentioned the program that Mass Reading Association used called Issuu. It connects to Canva, is easy to use and creates a full-size publication that can be printed on demand.
- Ms. Buckley would like to see more public art.
- Ms. Wong suggested Art in Choate or Oakland Park.

The members discussed asking local businesses if they would be interested in having art on their properties.

15. **MACC 'Creative Ground' Discussion** - Jordan et al. (to include recruitment of artists etc., venues) - not discussed
16. **Other Business** - there was none

Adjourn

There being no other business, Ms. Hachenburg made a motion to adjourn at 8:51 pm. Ms. Ellis seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: July 18

Fiscal '14:

July 18
 Aug 15
 Sept 5 and 19
 Oct 3 and 17
 Nov 7 and 21
 Dec 5 and 19