



# TOWN OF MEDWAY



## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Medway Town Hall

155 Village Street – Medway, MA 02053

## Medway Cultural Council

[medwayculturalcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:medwayculturalcouncil@gmail.com)

### MINUTES

Tuesday, July 18, 2023 @ 7:00 pm

Medway Library, Cole Room

**Members Attended:** Becky Atwood, Crystal Buckley, Stuthi Balaji, Cyndy Ellis, Phil Giangarra, Judith Moffatt, Jyoti Ranjan, Valerie Shinas, Hazel Warnick, Jordan Warnick

**Members Attended via Zoom:** none

**Members Absent:** Angelica Crosby, Gail Hachenburg, Amna Saeed-Kothe, Karyl Wong

**Community Members Present:** none

**Recording Secretary:** Marianne Boynton

Mr. Warnick called the Meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was in person with 10 members attending in-person.

#### 1. Approval of Minutes from June 6, 2023

Ms. Ellis made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 6/6/23 with corrections. Ms. Moffatt seconded the motion. Vote was approved unanimously.

#### 2. Officer's Reports - Treasurer's Report - Hazel Warnick

Ms. Warnick presented the Treasurer's Report. At the end of the fiscal year, we spent everything except \$0.24. As of FY24, we have full \$5,000 of town funds. The 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the payment for artists will come from these town funds. Donation funds were used for the Square Funds annual fee because it was dated in 2023. State funds used for the Mass CC grant fund recipients (She Grooves, Sense & Sound Robotics, Medway Friends of Performing Arts and Stephen Lewis).

Mr. Giangarra made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Ms. Balaji seconded the motion. Vote was approved, unanimously.

#### Co-Chair's Reports - Crystal Buckley, Jordan Warnick

Mr. Warnick mentioned that he will discuss MCC funding in "Other Business".

3. **MaCC/LCC Grants Update** (includes past month's events) - Karyl Wong did not attend. She provided an update via email to Mr. Warnick today:

The Southeastern Massachusetts Community band will not be going to Sr. Center as originally scheduled on July 19. It has been rescheduled to Sept 18 because only 8 signed up. Ms. Buckley mentioned that it wasn't clear that people needed to sign up and suggested that in the future ask all grant recipients for information to publicize the event. Mr. Warnick will ask Ms. Wong to contact Courtney at Sr. Center to clarify how to sign up.

4. **Statuary (Medway Library etc.)** – Becky Atwood

Ms. Atwood stated that there is no new progress; same artist is to do both projects, so they will be done sequentially. Ms. Atwood said that she and Ms. Hachenburg will need to meet with town departments for approvals.

5. **Art in the Park (w/ P&R)** – Crystal Buckley

Ms. Buckley has been in contact with Julie Harrington from Parks & Recreation, they set a date of Sunday, Sept 17 (tentative), planning for 11:00-4:00. It will be held at Choate Park. Mr. Warnick suggested asking about the tent at/near Thayer in case of rain.

6. **MedCC Funded events (includes Utility Boxes)** – Crystal Buckley and others.

The Utility Box project is going well, 2 completed, 3 nearly completed (end July) and 1 that has just been started by person who had replaced someone who backed out. Artists can't get final payment until Council approves; Ms. Buckley asked about the approval process. Council members suggested that it's ok for Ms. Buckley to provide final approval. Ms. Buckley asked if it was ok to dedicate her utility box to a community member who recently passed away and members agreed that she could. She has asked the artists to write a blurb for the post and/or add their website to post. This can be used for future Artist Spotlights. Mr. Warnick reminded the group about the poetry project related to the boxes.

Ms. Balaji made a motion to pay two people who are done; Mr. Giangarra seconded the motion. Ms. Warnick made a motion that Crystal Buckley can approve completion of each electrical box and her approval is the same as Council. This permits payment to the artists. Ms. Shinas seconded the motion. Vote was approved, unanimously for both motions.

7. **Social Media Update (Website, FB, Artist Spotlight)** – Valerie Shinas, Crystal Buckley

Mr. Warnick thanked the group for all of the efforts to improve social media. The website is up to date. Ms. Shinas pulls graphics and information from MCC Facebook page for consistent graphics. Members commented that the Pixie Festival ad is very good. Ms. Shinas confirmed that they are going to use Vimeo for posting videos. Mr. Warnick stated that visits to MCC pages have increased.

**8. High Tea Fund Raiser - Stuthi Balaji**

Ms. Balaji noted that they are struggling to find a venue. Either the price is too high, or the space is too small. They had wanted to keep the event in town, but it been difficult. Framingham University has spaces and willing to work with them on menu and numbers. Ms. Balaji asked for council thoughts on the ticket prices, suggesting \$100 adult and \$45 for kids. They are also thinking of adding a silent auction and will ask artists to donate pieces and maybe having a raffle at the door too. They are looking at spring of next year due to the delay in finding a site. There are a few dance schools interested in performing. Mr. Warnick suggested looking at the Hopkinton Center for the Arts.

**9. Annual Survey – Cyndy Ellis**

Ms. Ellis noted that she previously sent a google form to members for feedback. She is looking for input on the language, most taken from Mass Cultural Council, so they might want to personalize for Medway. She will re-send the form to MedCC members to review. The survey will be electronic. It was suggested having a QR code with link to survey at Pixie Festival.

**10. Pixie Festival Discussion (to include MedCC table at event and staffing) - Judith Moffatt and others.**

Ms. Moffatt is working hard to put event together. She is looking for volunteers and provided a list of tasks/time slots and asking people sign up for a time. They need tables and chairs, council members offered to bring tables & chairs at 10:00 and will bring the tent. They will need volunteers to put out signs that she is having printed, Jordan will bring photography signs. The 'Pickle Lady' will be there selling food, including hot dogs and popcorn. They will have craft tables as well as vendors. Barry is going to video tape the parade at 3:00. There will be signs for parking, going to borrow from DPW. They don't have a rain date. If cancelled, will need to reschedule in fall.

**11. Other Business**

Membership – Mr. Warnick had a communication with someone interested in joining but hasn't heard back. He wanted to open a discussion about having a student member. Ms. Ranjan has someone to recommend. Ms. Balaji suggests writing a job description with requirements and responsibilities. Ms. Buckley will ask one of the student box artists about their interest.

Future funding – Mr. Warnick obtained records from the town about how much was invested by the Town in MedCC in the past 10 years, the amount has been consistent. He wants to look at requests received and see what we could have funded if we had more funding from town. He also wants to ask Mass Cultural council how they determine the percentage given to different towns. Ms. Atwood asked if the issue was more about getting more artists interested in doing projects here and/or getting more people to attend the events. Mr. Warnick will work on analysis to determine whether MedCC should ask for more funding.

Cultural Center for Medway – Mr. Warnick noted that Select Board purchased the Block Company space to be converted to a future fire house and town hall. He felt that the vacated fire station and/or Sanford Hall building could be a potential location for a cultural center. Mr. Warnick wants to approach Select Board member (MCC liaison) to start conversation. Ms. Balaji noted that the Economic Development Committee is going to be looking at what will be done with the Medway Block space while the development takes place; one possibility that was suggested is that MCC could use the space on a temporary basis.

T- Shirts - Mr. Warnick gave an update that just about all members have gone to Tri-Valley for T-shirts, must one person left. Order to be placed on Wednesday.

Science-Related project - Ms. Ranjan indicated that she will put together an email and power point summarizing a potential science-related project and will ask that it be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Musicality in the Park - Ms. Balaji proposed an idea for a future project. There is a non-profit in Iowa doing 'musicality in the parks' and are willing to work with other groups. She noted that there is something similar at the rail trail in Holliston - a dome structure that could be musical space. Mr. Warnick suggested that Mass Cultural council has funding for this type of project.

### **Adjourn**

Ms. Moffatt made a motion to adjourn at 8:32 p.m. Ms. Buckley seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.

### **Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

Ms. Buckley made a motion to cancel the August 1 meeting and Ms. Moffatt seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.

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