



# TOWN OF MEDWAY

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Medway Town Hall  
155 Village Street – Medway, MA 02053



## Medway Cultural Council

medwayculturalcouncil@gmail.com

September 22, 2022

### MINUTES

Tuesday, September 20, 2022 @ 7:02 p.m.

**Members Present:** Stuthi Balaji, Crystal Buckley, Cyndy Ellis (Zoom), Philip Giangarra, Gail Hachenburg, Judith Moffatt, Hazel Warnick, Jordan Warnick, Valerie Shinas (via Zoom), Karyl Wong

**Members Absent:** Rebecca Atwood, Angelica Crosby, Celeste Falcone, Amy Rochford, Amna Saeed-Kothe

Meeting Started at 7:02 pm

1. **Approval of Minutes** from September 6, 2022 – accepted unanimously.
2. **Sculpture Project:**
  - **Proposed Design:** Erin McCarthy provided pictures (attached) of proposed sculptures and location at the library and a budget summary of the sculpturing project. It was previously decided that the project would incorporate something symbolic, especially of diversity and inclusion, and that it conveyed the idea that “anything is possible.” Erin was inspired by images from the Hubble Telescope and the inclusion of a representation of children with special needs who are attracted to light and the stars.
  - **Diversity Component:** For the diversity component, Erin discussed the suggestion that one child in the proposed sculpture be an African American girl touching a star and that the girl is wearing an AFO brace (*i.e.*, ‘ankle-foot orthosis’) on her leg. It was pointed out that bronze is just a color, but that diversity can be shown through different shapes in order that the subjects look different. Thus, the goal in looking for models is shape. The second child would be a boy, not reaching for the stars, but more admiring the stars. Questions were raised about one child possibly being an amputee, something perhaps more permanent than the AFOs? Erin indicated that she has a personal connection to AFOs and that it was preferential in such statues to not show more severe changes.

- Design Inclusion: A number of questions were raised concerning the inclusion of a star(s). These included: i) making the star more abstract or have it be interpreted in a new way; ii) including a light; iii) avoiding the heaviness of the star - want some airiness; maybe want more than just 5 spokes and going in all directions; not even having a star or just have the sculptures pointing at the sky as an eventual conversation starter?
- Casting for Sculpture: The next step is to cast the sculpture when the council commits to an idea, narrowing down the poses and the choice of models. Erin prefers an age group: of about 6 y.o. for the smaller and slightly older for the larger, that being the usual the age that they are asking these questions and D&I becomes more of a conversation topic.
- Grants: Erin will be looking at two other grant possibilities that may pay the entire amount other than the Mass CC grant (\$5000). If the other grants are received, then the library's wooden sign would be replaced with a bronze one as well and adding stars. She also noted that if the stars in the sign, then there's the connection there even if the sculpture does not have stars in it.

New England Fine Arts and Mass Artists and Cultural Organizations (public art project D&I grant) is for \$15,000 to \$30,000; the VIA Art fund, though more competitive, is \$25,000 to \$100,000, is based out of NY, are looking for community engagement and our project has the opportunity to create that kind of engagement (due Jan 5, 2023); also possible donation as we get closer to the finished project.

- Community engagement: It was proposed to involve children in our community in an art contest where they draw their version of "reaching for the stars"; live stream the process (mold making, pouring the bronze, etc.); utilize our Artist spotlight and possibly an artist's lecture
- Final Notes:  
Various types of grants, project grants have a better chance if a sculpture cast is available.
  - Budget: Erin is donating her time, because she is originally from Medway. Will probably make a copy to sell or display elsewhere – will depend on the size of the children
  - Timeline: will probably take 2 years to complete the project
  - Will need a platform at the library site, but kids could climb on it and nothing will happen

### 3. Officer's reports:

Treasurer's Report (Hazel Warnick): Sent the report to all by email:

- \$138.21 remaining after remaining grantee funds and admin costs
- Raised the question of allocate more money to the sculpture at this time or wait until she hears back from her other grants?
- Decision made to leave \$1000 for the sculpture

- Motion to accept Treasurer's report as written by Jordan Warnick, Seconded by Gail Hachenburg; Vote unanimous, motion passed.
4. **'21 and '22 Grant Update** (Karyl Wong):
    - Paint and Sip – Grantee has been sick, so hasn't submitted yet
    - Matt York – Songs and Stories of Highwaymen – 17 people attended at Library
    - A discussion ensued in which the following points were brought up:
      - Can we suggest a different day, a different venue, etc., to make it better attended?
      - Can we put restrictions on venue and date/time
      - Could we work with the Economic Development Committee to get a list of businesses that might be willing to host entertainment events
  5. **Social Media and Artist Spotlight** (Valerie Shinas, Gail Hachenburg)
    - Barry Schneier, author of a book about Bruce Springsteen, is interested in being the first person in the new edition of our Artist Spotlight. This is not an event, but a short video posting on our website. Amy from Medway Cable Access would go do a video interview. Anytime the group is ready for him, we can do it and kick it off in October.
    - Talked about reaching out beyond Medway to get more artists
  6. **Update on Signal Boxes** (Crystal Buckley):
    - Haven't received anything from artists yet
    - Discussion about stipend/grant for artists per box
    - Motion to make a flat rate at \$1000 by Gail Hachenburg; Phil Giangarra seconded: Jordan Warnick abstained, everyone else voted aye; motion passed.
  7. **Willow's Living Community hosting meetings and Coffee House** – tabled
  8. **Formalize Collaborative Efforts with Town and Community Entities (library, MFPA, P&R, Business Council, Community Farm, etc.)** - Jordan Warnick
    - Jordan raised the need for an organized system of posting material to the internet. He reiterated the need of a formal list of places that it goes out to including, but not limited to:
    - Med CC Website, Med CC FB page, Friends of Medway, The Business Council, The Community Farm, The Medway Library, P&R, MFPA, etc. Additional suggestions welcome.
  9. **Trash Can and Picnic Table Art** - Jordan Warnick
    - Jordan showed an example of the T-shirt worn by Milford CC. He suggested using Medway Blue (like the Medway Mustangs and that in use with our logo). Do we want them? Should we get an estimate? The council was unanimous in endorsing the idea and asked Jordan to move ahead.
    - Painted trash cans, such as those in Milford, will not work since those in town are all plastic and they were removed from the park.
    - An example of the picnic table art in use in Milford and sponsored by the Milford CC was also shown. The artwork is interesting and of value. Jordan will discuss with Julie Harrington at Parks and Recreation.

- The need to prioritize the Utility boxes was made clear

#### 10. **Art on the Trails**

- Artist from Dedham was in contact with Jordan/Hazel about permanent (bronze sculpted) art for the trails that can't be easily destroyed
- This is a project also suggested by a Select Board member within the past year.
- The timing is not right at the moment since the Trail Club event is Sept 24. It may be a point for future discussion that would be done on the trails in and out of Choate Park in Collaboration with the Medway Trail Club and Parks & Recreation within the next year. Jordan will follow up.
- It was also pointed out that have a sculptor on board that could be approached for her participation as an artist.

#### 11. **New Member Interest** -Jordan Warnick

- We received an email from a resident indicating an interest in joining the council. The person was informed that we have a cap on the number of members at 15. We do, however welcome the person to volunteer or attend meetings without being a member,

#### 12. **Other Business**

- Received an Application for Diwali Celebration in October for direct support by the MedCC. The application was previously sent to all council members. A discussion about the application ensued regarding costs, location, etc. Given the number of questions from the Council, the applicant was asked to resolve the questions and resubmit the application.
- Given the time constraints on the approval of the grant, a Zoom meeting will be scheduled for a Zoom meeting to vote on it on Monday 9/26 at 7pm

#### **Adjourned at 8:55 p.m.**

- Gail H. made motion to adjourn, Crystal B. seconded the motion – Adjourned at 8:55pm.

*The listed agenda items are those that are reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all the listed items may in fact be discussed. The order of items may be adjusted. The Council may address and consider other matters not specified to the extent permitted by law.*

## **Future Medway Cultural Council Meetings**

First and Third Tuesdays of the month @ 7:00 p.m.

October 18 (Tues)	Presentation Room, Door 7, Medway Middle School
Nov 1 (Tues)	Cole Room, Medway Library
Nov 15 (Tues)	Cole Room, Medway Library
Dec 6 (Tues)	Cole Room, Medway Library
Dec 20 (Tues)	Cole Room, Medway Library