



TOWN OF MEDWAY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Medway Town Hall
155 Village Street – Medway, MA 02053



Medway Cultural Council

medwayculturalcouncil@gmail.com

June 21, 2022

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 21, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.
Medway Public Library - Cole Room

Members Present: Amy Rochford, Phil Giangarra, Cyndy Ellis, Judith Moffat, Jordan Warnick, Hazel Warnick, Gail Hachenburg, Angelica Crosby, Crystal Buckley, Amna Saeed-Kothe, Celeste Falcone, and Karyl Wong (via Zoom)

Members Absent: Valerie Shinas and Rebecca Atwood

Meeting Started at 7:05 p.m.

1. **Approval of Minutes** from May 3, 2022 – accepted as is.
2. **Officer's reports:**
 - a. Hazel Warnick (Treasurer's Report) – Reported that the new fiscal year begins this month (June), and we have \$15.58 in town funds remaining. Unclear if it's too late to cut checks to use this remaining amount, but Hazel will follow up to determine if we can use this money for administrative purposes. \$2,204.59 in donation funds remain and may be rolled over to the next Fiscal Year. We have \$6,948.11 remaining in State Funds, of which: \$4,860 are for the 21-22 remaining grantees, \$1,800 are for the 20-21 remaining grantees, and \$288.11 remains available for administrative costs.
3. **Update on Choate Park murals. Meeting with P&R, etc.**
 - a. Gail Hachenburg attended the Select Board meeting and reported the following: that the Parks and Recreation department approved both sides of Mike Cannistraro's mural, that the Cultural Council also committed to donating \$500 towards the Signal Boxes, and since the bench that was

previously designated for the Bridges Festival was not needed, it was donated to the Peace Garden.

- b. Amy Rochford commended the good work done on the project and noted that it was great to see public art become more visible and that this was in line with the goals of the Cultural Council.
- c. Phil Giangarra voiced concern about the mural being placed too close to the volleyball court and asked if the balls might hit the mural. Multiple members stated that the mural had been placed far enough from the courts that the balls would not reach the murals.

4. Update on '21 and '22 grantees

- a. Karyl Wong reported that she had spoken with Tim Rice about his grant, but that he seemed hesitant to commit to the project. He expressed that the funding offered of \$500 was insufficient and that he was too busy to complete the project within the required timeframe.
- b. Gail Hachenburg suggested that we inform Tim Rice that if he is unable to complete the allocation within the timeframe, he can reapply next year. This way, we can reallocate the grant funds to a different project. Karyl Wong will send out a letter asking him to confirm by July and the option to reapply next year.
- c. Amy Rochford asked how the funds would be reallocated. Gail Hachenburg responded that the Cultural Council would vote on the matter.

5. Priorities for Grants 2023

- a. Gail Hachenburg proposed that the Cultural Council prioritize grants extended in the 2022-23 fiscal year. She explained that many of the grant programs from this fiscal year were poorly attended. Notably, if a grantee doesn't use their money, it goes back to the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Medway Cultural Council does not get to reallocate those resources to other projects. If enough funds are returned to the state, they can choose to reduce the amount of funding made available for grants. Therefore, it might be a better use of resources to fund 4-5 big performances that are better attended rather than to divide the funds across numerous events that are poorly attended.
- b. Amy Rochford asked how the Council would identify which projects were well attended or not. Gail responded that the Council has attendance records for a few of the events and could ask vendors for that data as well.
- c. All members of the Council were largely in favor of this proposal.

6. Medway Cultural Council Grant Application FY'22

- a. Jordan Warnick suggested that the Council obtain feedback from the town to determine what the people would like to see in the form of an online survey. Crystal Buckley and Angelica Crosby volunteered to work on the survey and its marketing efforts.

- b. Amy Rochford recommended widely distributing QR codes to the survey to ensure greater exposure.
- c. Jordan Warnick explained that although the Council can implement marketing strategies from prior years, we can also expand how we get the word out.
- d. Some ideas proposed: Multi-ethnic night, Bollywood dancers, Klezmer Bands, Drum Circles.
- e. A few members had questions about the grant applications and how accessible they would be. Gail Hachenburg explained that the applications were made publicly available on the Council's website and social media platforms.

7. Update on Social Media sites

- a. Celeste Falco had no updates to report.
- b. Angelica Crosby asked if a Facebook event page had been setup for the upcoming Park Pixie event. Since none had been created, Celeste Falco offered to setup the page and Angelica Crosby offered to distribute flyers across various Medway locations.

8. Medway Celebration Day, Follow-Up

- a. Judith Moffatt reported that she received an inquiry regarding whether the Cultural Council would be willing to fund the band (\$1200) or the orchestra (\$3500) for Celebration Day.
- b. Gail Hachenburg expressed that the request had been made much too late, well past the grant application deadlines.
- c. A motion was made to deny the request – two members abstained, and the remainder assented to deny the request.
- d. Amy Rochford recommended that the Council respond by providing details on our grant cycle and encourage them to apply next year. Karyl Wong offered to draft and send this letter out.

9. Spring Photo Contest

- a. Jordan Warnick reported that the Council has only received 12 photos so far and that the Council needs to decide on 3 winners in July. [Tim Rice will judge]

10. Representation on NAIP committee

- a. Gail Hachenburg reported that there were only 4 attendees on the committee, and they tied on their votes for whom to appoint. So, the appointment process has been continued until there is an additional tie-breaking vote.

11. Update on Signal boxes

- a. Crystal Buckley presented the plan regarding the Signal Box murals in order to obtain feedback and approval from the Cultural Council before presenting to the Select Board for approval.
- b. Members asked for some time to review the presentation before voting on approval.
- c. Jordan Warnick recommended that everyone take a couple weeks before the Council convenes an ad-hoc Zoom meeting to vote on the changes and approval to the proposal.

12. Monitoring Mass Creative Update Sessions

- a. Hazel Warnick asked for volunteers to attend and report on the Mass Creative Update sessions that occur every Friday morning from 9:45am to 10am. Amy Rochford and Angelica Crosby were interested in attending on occasion. Hazel Warnick offered to send around the registration link to anyone interested.

13. Other Business

- a. Jordan Warnick reminded the Council that the Council needs to elect 3 officers including Chair, Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary. He highlighted the importance of being mentored for those roles and encouraged members to consider running. The election of officers will be placed on the Agenda for July 19 meeting.

14. Topics for future meeting agendas: None at present

Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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.

July 19 Cole Room, Medway Library (one meeting in July)

Aug 2 Cole Room, Medway Library

Aug 16 Cole Room, Medway Library