

Great Barrington Cultural Council Meeting June 18, 2019 Minutes

Meeting called to order 6:18 p.m. In the courtyard of the Firestation.

Present: Tate, Rose, Ellen, Michael, Patrick, Rees, Haley. Michael announced he is leaving the Council when his term is up this month, then left the meeting.

Tate motions to approve minutes. Minutes of last meeting approved.

Renewing/expiring memberships:

Michael's term is expired. Rose needs to find out if she can stay on the GB Cultural Council when she moves to Stockbridge next month. Lauren Clark has expressed that she will be resigning. She did not attend this meeting. Katherine has moved to New York City and plans to resign from the GBCC but has not done that yet.

New member letters of intent from Rees Shad, Natasha Perlis, Nancy Coleman, Haley Barbieri. Sharon Lazerson has expressed interest but not written, Tate will follow up with her.

Ellen: Helen wants us to make recommendations for new members tonight, so the selectboard can approve at their next meeting. Tate moves to recommend four prospective members. Unanimously approved.

Manual update: 1999 manual has been trashed. We will now use the online MCC Toolkit.

Reimbursement to Grant Program for fiscal year 2020. We have to provide information to the state by July 15

This is a pilot program, an expedited granting process, eliminating the requirement that funds be reimbursement based, so the payments can be made before the event takes place. Voted to accept participation in this program.

Unanimously accepted.

Community Survey update: some revisions have been made. Copies of the updated survey will be supplied at the next meeting. We will put it up on Facebook and ask the town to circulate it. Paper copies at the library, town hall and grocery stores. Due in September just before the next grant cycle. Power Point from MCC has good explanation.

Report from Ellen on the MCC Pop-Up at the Wit: 10 Berkshire CCs were there. MCC is connecting all chairs across the state and creating a Facebook private group for all Massachusetts towns. Ellen represented Great Barrington. Some main topics were collaborating with other cultural councils, and partnering with towns for matching funds. We might consider connecting with other councils, especially Stockbridge and West Stockbridge. Most helpful to know what other councils are doing, even if we don't work together. All cultural councils are getting a modest increase for the coming year. Last year the \$5,095 amount was correct, so we have a small surplus which we can use for administrative purposes.

Set next meeting – Tate will send out a doodle poll for July. Topics will be Community Survey and preparing for next grant cycle. Another discussion will be whether we require grant applicants to have a venue by the time of applying. We should either not require that, or make it more obvious that we want that. It's a town requirement now, and perhaps it should be changed. The Community Survey will help determine this. Also, availability of transportation is an issue to be determined by the survey.

Next meeting secretary: Rose or a new member. There is a template for minutes.

Citizen Speak:

Rees looking for links to MCC for interested new members to become more informed.

Move to adjourn: 6:50 pm. Approved.

Submitted by Rose Tannenbaum.

Electronically Signed by Tate Coleman, Vice Chair.

DRAFT