

GREAT BARRINGTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

Thursday, August 11, 2022

1. Call to order - Patrick called the meeting to order at 6:05pm with a roll call vote: Patrick Barrett aye, Elissa Haskins-Vaughn aye, Stacy Ostrow, aye, Ellen Shanahan aye, Sherry Steiner aye, Allison Zivin aye.
2. Approve minutes from last meetings (discussion/vote)
Elissa made a motion to approve the July 21, 2022 minutes, Ellen seconded. Patrick asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: Patrick aye, Elissa aye, Stacy aye, Ellen aye, Sherry aye, Allison aye. All in favor: 6-0.
3. New Business
 - a. New potential Council member – Patrick introduced Leora Kahn who shared her background in the arts and leadership of the nonprofit Proof which promotes using multi-media to drive social change. The Council shared details on GBCC goals, funding and the grant-making process – and explained the procedure for joining the Council.
4. Old Business
 - a. Survey results – Allison presented on efforts to distribute, collect and analyze survey data. She shared results to-date including - top initiatives: community building, nature, schools; priority groups: low income, families, teens/seniors; and factors to consider: cost, location, accessibility.
 - i. Patrick asked about the survey timeline and posting on Facebook – it was discussed that there are limitations on Survey Monkey for both the number of responses and creating a link. Allison stated she is keeping a spreadsheet of responses and will continue to monitor. It was agreed that the survey would stay open for one more week and Patrick would look into how to post on Facebook to get a broader response.
 - ii. The Council agreed to review the mission statement and grant criteria in two weeks once final survey results are in.
 - b. Mission Statement – to be reviewed at the August 23 meeting
 - c. Grant review criteria – to be reviewed at the August 23 meeting
 - d. FY22 Grant status – Patrick stated not all grantees have submitted paperwork, but he will send a reminder in the fall regarding submitting paperwork before year-end.
 - e. Fundraising FY23 – The Council discussed store round-up programs at Guidos, Co-op and Big Y. Stacy will look into details.
5. Citizen's Speak
 - a. Leora Kahn stated she has seen good results from the round-up program and suggested approaching the pot stores in town.
6. Set next meeting date – Next meeting scheduled for August 23 at 5:30 pm to discuss the survey, mission statement and grant criteria.
7. Adjourn - Ellen made a motion to adjourn; Allison seconded. Roll call vote: Patrick aye, Elissa aye, Stacy aye, Ellen aye, Sherry aye, Allison aye. All in favor: 6-0. Meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Secretary