

Michael D.
Andelman
Susan Pettee
Lauren Clark
Catherine Hancock
Ellen Shanahan
Rose Tannenbaum
Tate Coleman
Amy E. Taylor
Patrick Barrett



TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS

CULTURAL COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, November 28th, 2018

6pm

Mason Library

231 Main Street

Great Barrington, MA 01230

- Call to Order 6:03

Present: Michael D. Andelman, Susan Pettee, Lauren Clark, Catherine Hancock, Ellen Shanahan, Rose Tannenbaum, Tate Coleman, Amy E. Taylor, Patrick Barrett

- Approval of 11/13 minutes: Susan moved to approve- Ellen seconded. All in favor. Amy abstained.
- Old business:
 - December 30st decisions need to be made.
 - Pat filled out the spreadsheet and gave a 1-5 rating of grants that we didn't get to and applied the council's priorities. Hard to assign a 1-5 value b/c it isn't weighted. Want to include the human element in our process. LOS is a binary. Other columns are not binary.
 - Letter of support conversation and what that means. Catherine has been in touch with Justina from the MCC who says that is up to the Council how we want to handle incomplete applications.
 - How specific should it be?
 - Susan says that no letter shouldn't disqualify applicant but that it should be noted.
 - Ellen- do places with times and dates need a letter- should we assume its a given?
 - Catherine- Disagrees- a LOS offers validity and demonstrates ability of applicant's organizational skill. Although next year we should make it more explicit that a LOS is required and who we require it from. Catherine

also voices that since she's applied for a grant it is possible she should abstain from this vote.

- Michaels moves to prioritize complete applications but not to disqualify remaining applications. Pat seconds. Majority in favor.
- Move on to existing "yes" pile:
 - Berkshire Hills regional school district. WEB DuBois- currently at a yes 4.5
 - Berkshire Pulse: Martha and drumming. Numerically a yes
 - Music in common and Mic community meet ups
 - Sarah Clay and moon and stars
 - Nutshell Play house
 - Jim Manning and a Ballooniverse of stories
- TBD Pile:
 - John Root a celebration of song - 3.5. Senior Center, Free, Complete Application. Pat voiced that even though this lost points for not serving children- seniors should be on par with children. Council votes on approval Michale moves. Tate seconds. All in favor.
 - Green art workshop. Pop up habitat. Susan Smith. Visual art taking place at Muddy Brook, Monument valley, Berkshire South, will serve 60 children. No LOS. But has a specific place but at large agency with no specific date. Council again discusses need of LOS.
 - Michael motions to only consider applications with letters of support with the option to move into the pile that is incomplete. Pat second. All in favor.
 - Tate voices that we can contact applicants.
 - Michael points out that there is a time constraint and that it is a busy time of year.
 - Lauren points out that a LOS should be prioritized due to importance of letter.
 - Amy brings up if the applicant is applying for a program at a location where the program is held, why would they need a letter: For example an event at Simon's Rock that is being applied for by a faculty member
 - Catherine points out that even if an individual is associated with an organization and applying for an event at an organization, they should still have a letter from another individual either at that organization or familiar with the event, to offer validity for the program. She brings up her experience grant writing at the Mahaiwe and needing to provide LOS's for events even if they take place at the Mahaiwe She then says she may need to recuse herself from offering her opinion on the subject in the event that it may be interpreted as self interested. Tate and Amy nod in agreement.
 - Council decides to move on.
 - Monument Girls Write On: takes place in West Stockbridge. Ellen voices concern for girls only and location being west Stockbridge. Has a 3.6 voting. Although work is done at Monument Mountain and performance is in WS. Requesting \$450

from us and other councils. They'll eliminate paid advertising for event if we don't fund. VOTE: Michael moves to place in yes pile. AMy seconds.

- Applicants missing Letters of Support:
 - Chesterwood- Donna Hassler.
 - WAM theater
 - Bard College- Daniel's art party
 - Berkshire Bach.
 - Dewy Hall- No letter and doesn't benefit GB
 - Berkshire Lyric
 - An evening at the opera- remote location
- Sculpture Now- 65 students will benefit out of school at the Mount. Art teaches offers experience in art to monument mountain students. Has LOS. Actual program is offering student field trip to the mount with artists and creating their own pieces. Lauren and Tate voice that we should not be funding this. Susan moves to put in no pile. Ellen seconds.
- Aston Magnum has LOS but we have already voted no. Susan motions to put in no. Tate seconds. All in favor.
- Justin Kay- bending time the randy Kay documentary. No because audience is 5000 people and wants to make a movie.
- In the eyes of another- RESS foundation- not local. Total project is 162K. Asking for 1K. They applied to every LCC in the state last year. Not local.
- Renaissance Lute- voted yes last week- moved to pile

We have a pile of yeses that need to be calculated.

Michael announces that the following members need to go to town hall to do our annual distribution signatures: Lauren, Catherine, Rose, Ellen, Michael, Amy

Pat Volunteers to cross reference the piles with the excel spreadsheet that has numerically calculated each grant according to the council's priorities

Next meeting:

December 5th, 5:30pm

December 19th, 5:30pm

Ellen moves to adjourn. Rose Seconds. All in Favor: 6:53pm

Signed: Catherine Hancock 12/3/18