

Great Barrington W.E.B. Du Bois Legacy Committee

Zoom videoconference

Draft Minutes of the Wednesday, January 28, 2021 meeting.

Attending: Barbara Dean, Emily DeVoti, Thasia Giles, Tim Likarish, Sara Mugridge, Gwendolyn VanSant, Stephanie Wright.

Absent: Reverend Sloan Letman IV, Leah Reed, Randy Weinstein, Emily Williams.

1. Call to Order

Gwendolyn VanSant called the meeting to order at 6:20pm.

Ms. VanSant ran the meeting as Mr. Weinstein was absent from the call.

All votes at this meeting will be made via roll call.

2. Review of minutes

Motion: Barbara Dean made a motion to approve the January 13, 2020 minutes.

Second: Sara Mugridge.

In favor: all; opposed: none.

3. Old Business

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Likarish gave updates on the budget and finance issues.

He said that Mr. Weinstein has ordered the Legacy Award plaques on a personal credit card. However, Mr. Likarish said that he has discovered that from now on, the town asks that vendors invoice the town instead.

He also reported that the town has confirmed the Legacy Committee's donation account can indeed be used to reimburse BRIDGE for 2020 Legacy Festival-related expenses. (Still being determined is how to reimburse Ms. VanSant for expenses she paid on the committee's behalf on her personal credit card.)

The committee is voting again on financial issues from the 1/13/21 meeting:

Motion: Tim Likarish made a motion that the committee pays Dr. Williams a fee of \$500 for her work on the 2020 festival.

Second: Ms. VanSant

In favor: all; opposed: none.

Motion: Ms. DeVoti made a motion to approve the following expenditure for the 2021 Du Bois Legacy Celebration:

Performers, \$2,000 (\$500 each to Wanda Houston, Mary Nell Morgan, Reggie Harris, and Greg Greenway)

Plaques (for Du Bois Awardees and the photos for the middle school: \$200

Banners, \$2,000

1-2 speakers + M.C. for the event = up to \$600

Motion: Emily DeVoti,

Second: Thasia Giles

In favor: all. Opposed: none.

Total: up to \$4,800 approved.

Mr. Likarish will speak with the town about the process for paying performers and reimbursing Larkin for managing the signs.

Festival Updates

Banners: The banners are going up. Mark Pruhenski will now take over the process.

The town will take over the process for the banners in the future. Next year, the committee will need to remind the town earlier, that the banners should be up beginning Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the future.

This year, the committee asks the town to let the banners stay up at least through March, as they will have such a late debut.

Ms. VanSant has agreed to M.C. the festival.

The W.E.B. Du Bois Middle School will record a presentation.

Ms. VanSant will approach Dennis Powell and Frances Jones-Sneed to record a Q&A together, six to seven minutes.

Mike Beauth at the Mahaiwe needs all video footage by Feb. 11.

Ms. Mugridge will contact Ellen Lahr, the town press rep, to organize a draft of the press release.

Mr. Weinstein will contact Jeff Peck to ask him to speak and the selectboard to ask them to read the proclamation for Du Bois Day. He will also ask Whitney Battle-Battiste to record a 5 minute greeting from UMass.

Ms. Wright will record her intro to Wray Gunn's acceptance speech, and she will check if Mr. Gunn prefers to deliver his speech at the Mahaiwe or via Zoom.

Ms. Dean will ask Reggie Harris to record his acceptance speech via video, and she will record her introduction on the Mahaiwe stage.

4. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Ms. DeVoti

Second: Ms. Dean

In favor: all; opposed: none.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 17 at 6:00 pm via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily DeVoti

Recording Secretary