

HARWICH CULTURAL COUNCIL - MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 9, 2019 Harwich Cultural Center 4:30 PM

Present: Tina Games, Rosanne Shapiro, Laurinda Raquel, Rose Ann Clarke, Joan Sacchetti, Shay Mitchell, Chris Banks (absent, Kathy Teahan)

Chair Tina Games called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Public Comments and Announcements – Rose Ann, Shay, Joan got letters advising them of the end of their terms. Shay is term-limited (six years of service). Rose Ann and Joan are eligible for another three-year term but have opted to step off the council to pursue other things.

Review and Approval of April 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes – The minutes were approved unanimously - motion by Rose Ann Clark, seconded by Chris Banks.

Review of current financial report – Treasurer Joan Sacchetti presented the current financial report which indicated that we have reimbursed the first grantee of this year's cycle. We currently have a balance of \$10,823 with \$9,000 set aside for this year's grantees

Old Business

2019 Grant Awardees: Tina reported that she has not received any new invitations to events. She will send these out to Council members as they come in

Art Week – Harwich Cultural Center:

Chris reported on the Mystery Art Puzzle activity that was created by the Guild of Harwich Artists. This activity provided ninety 6 x 6 tiles for participants to paint with the finished tiles assembled (as a puzzle) to create a giant picture. This event was free and open to the public. Many new people attended and there are photos of the event on Facebook. Chris indicated that she plans to offer this opportunity during next year's Art Week.

Laurinda shared her impression that Art Week this year more robust and that there were events in the entryway that people could see as soon as they entered the building. She did a Soul Collage Program in her studio. Also discussed were the "Light up the Night" display as well as the bottle project that was partially funded through a grant from the Harwich Cultural Council. Rosanne shared about the labyrinth events that were offered twice during Art Week and included artists displaying their work and its connection to Celtic cultural traditions. There were also events at Brooks Free Library and Monomoy H.S. Bernadette Waystack, MRHS art teacher, offered a session on block printing as well as an opportunity for people in the wider community to see the school

Saquatucket Harbor Marina and Artisan Shacks Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony on May 3rd. The turnout for this event was good and included town officials as well as Sen. Cyr, Sue Sullivan of the Boch Center (sponsor of Art Week), and Tina (on behalf of the Harwich Cultural Council). Attendees were able to see the artisan shacks which were staged, as well as the harbor master's headquarters. There was an article in the Chronicle about this event that focused on the creative economy as well as the cultural districts that are in process.

Old Business vs. Unfinished Business – This was a follow-up to the discussion at our last meeting on the correct terminology. Kathy and Tina did some research and learned that the town has always used term "Old Business" so we will continue to use this terminology to be consistent with other town departments and committees.

New Business

MCC Liaison – We have a new Mass Cultural Council contact, Sam Montaña, who replaced Charlotte Cutter. Tina has invited her to the grant reception as well as our September meeting.

Fundraising Subcommittee – Kathy is still gathering information about creating cards. She will meet with a representative of the Graphic Design Department at Cape Tech to see what our options are.

Grant Reception Subcommittee – This year's reception is on June 6 in the Harwich Cultural Center library. Tina reported that at least half of the grantees have responded; she will send another reminder with a "hard date" to respond. So far there are no attendees requiring A/V equipment for their presentations. Tina will follow-up with local press, i.e., Bill Galvin and possibly Deb DeCosta. We will allow time for attendees to mingle before starting the program. All Council members need to arrive at 4 p.m. to set up refreshments which are being coordinated by Rosanne and Shay. Rosanne will obtain tax exempt certificates for any purchases we make as well as forms for reimbursement that can be completed and given to Joan.

HCC Leadership Positions for 2019-2020 –

Chair – Tina will remain on the Council for the next two years, and she presented two options for transitioning to a new Chair. The new Chair (1) can either work alongside Tina to shadow her or (2) take the reins as new Chair for the next year with Tina as back-up.

Secretary - Rosanne will continue in this position.

Treasurer – Joan is finishing her term in June and we need someone to replace her in this position. Responsibilities include preparing paperwork and turning it in to the Town Accountant, checking our mailbox weekly, keeping track of money from the state (MCC) and the town as well as our gift account (for money from fund raising activities). Members were asked to think about taking on this responsibility. Tina will meet with Joan to get a sense of the job responsibilities, i.e., a checklist and job description. Fall is the busiest time since it's the end of the old grant cycle, so there a lot of "clean-up" in preparation for the new grant cycle. The treasurer needs to know how our system is set up with the town to ensure that the grant money is kept encumbered so it's available for reimbursement. Joan emphasized the need for grantees to submit reimbursement requests within 6 months of their program dates. Council members were asked to think about taking on this responsibility and, if possible, letting Tina know by our next meeting (June 13th).

• Other Items – We discussed other possible new members, two in particular who have expressed interest (Tina will follow up with both).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm – motion by Rosanne, seconded by Laurinda.