**HARWICH CULTURAL COUNCIL**

*Meeting Minutes - September 14, 2017*

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairperson Tina Games

**Members present:** Tina Games, Joan Sacchetti, Shay Mitchell, Debbie Ferry, Rosanne Shapiro (new council member)

**Special guests:** Erica Strzepek– *Coordinator, Harwich Cultural Center* andDiane Rezendes– *Artist, Harwich Cultural Center*

**Welcome:** A brief introduction was made to welcome our guests, who updated us on the status of the Harwich Cultural Center. It was noted that all 28 studio spaces have now been rented with a waitlist of 21. There was a wonderful discussion of upcoming activities at the center, along with an array of collaborative ideas on how the Harwich Cultural Centerand the Harwich Cultural Council can work together to ensure a successful initiative. Diane Rezendes shared her experience as an artist working in the space, while Erica Strzepek spoke from a more organizational perspective. A formal invitation was extended to those council members who have not yet toured the center and an agreement was made to consider the venue as a place for the spring grant reception.

**Secretary’s Report:** The minutes from the June 8, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved with Joan Sacchetti moving to accept and Debbie Ferry seconding the motion.

**Financial Report:** The current financial report was presented by Treasurer Joan Sacchetti - and was reviewed and approved. Debbie Ferry motioned to accept and Shay Mitchell seconded. Joan Sacchetti also noted that she would be meeting with the town accountant on Friday, September 15th to complete the FY17 LCC form required by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The town’s input is due by September 30th. It was also noted that the 2018 amount for grant allocation would be decided at the October meeting.

**Old Business:** Rosanne Shapiro was formally introduced as the Council’s newest member, bringing with her a wealth of passion, expertise, and new ideas. This opened a wonderful dialogue about future fundraising possibilities. Chairperson Tina Games also mentioned that the Council has one current vacancy with eight active members.

**New Business:** Council members discussed the current funding situation on the state level and how that would impact the grants program on the local level. Rosanne Shapiro reported on her outreach efforts to state legislators and shared the favorable responses she had received. It was noted that the Massachusetts Cultural Council is currently lobbying the State Senate to veto the budget cuts. The timeline for the upcoming grant application review process was discussed and applications are coming in as of September 1st.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

**\* Minutes submitted by: Tina Games, Chair *(on behalf of Secretary Larraine Bossi)***