

Milford Cultural Council:

Minutes for January 17th, 2023: MCC Monthly Meeting
Room 14 at Milford Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Aboighasem Moazeni, Martin Montoya, CC Chapman, Joclyn Crivello, Michael Visconti, Sara Vono-Caires, Sandra Buckley, Jenny Lyons, Noressa Santomenna and Denise Tracy

Absent: Geri Eddins, Michele Pici, and Khizra Syeda

- A. Welcome and Call to Order
- B. Review and Approve Minutes of 12/13/22 Meeting
 - a. Martin Montoya moves to approve, Mike Visconti seconds, unanimous vote
- C. Invitation to Speak
 - a. No visitors tonight
- D. Financial Report
 - a. Balance: \$1,845.41
 - b. Reimbursements and Deposits
 - i. Reimbursement to Geri Eddins- \$25
 - ii. Waiting on 2023 Grant Allocations
 - iii. Joclyn Crivello moves to accept, Aboighasem Moazeni seconds, unanimous vote
- E. Old Business
 - a. 2023 Grant Status
 - i. Everyone has been notified - all paperwork has been sent and we have already received some finished paperwork back.
 - b. Multicultural Performance Stage at Celebrate Milford Planning
 - i. We still have a very positive reaction to working with the Celebrate Milford group for a performance stage!
 - ii. We are sending out a Google Form as an application where performers can apply to perform during this event
 - 1. We will translate all questions to Spanish and Portuguese as well.
 - iii. Will the subcommittee decide or will the council decide? Most likely the subcommittee will make decisions and will ask the council for help if needed.
 - iv. What is the expected stipend? Do we have a conversation about if their time can be an in kind tax write off?

- v. We have ninety minutes on the stage right now and we are trying to negotiate for two hours of stage time.
- vi. This form will be shared mainly by word of mouth and social media - looking into creating posters and other flyers to get the word out.
- vii. We are hoping for lots of submissions and new contacts for other events!

F. New Business

a. Grant Voting Process: Review

- i. Having a meeting to hash out questions and ask questions of the applicants was very helpful this year.
- ii. More Cultural Councils are starting to switch to the Direct Granting process and leave reimbursement behind. As per Martin Montoya, our treasurer, direct granting seems much more efficient.
- iii. A town close to us did make a spreadsheet public that showcased denial reasons for some applicants; would we want to do that? Our meetings are publicized; people can come and talk with us if they would like to know specifics. This could bring up more negative responses which is a bit off putting.
 - 1. Maybe for historical purposes, we could create an excel spreadsheet that comes out the next fiscal year. Or even add in a slide for the grant process where we tell applicants the most common denial reasons.
- iv. Maybe we can also send out a "best practices" sheet.

b. Downtown Mural: Status

- i. No update from the subcommittee
- ii. This is a fully funded mural by the owner of the building where it is happening; we are waiting to hear from the owner of the building on next steps.

c. Upcoming Membership Renewals (Martin: March 23; Sandee: June 22)

G. Correspondence and Public Comments

H. Any Other Business. Next Meeting February 21, 2023

a. Meeting adjourned

- i. Martin Montoya moves to approve, CC Chapman seconds, unanimous vote