

Milford Cultural Council:

Minutes for February 21, 2023: MCC Monthly Meeting
Room 14 at Milford Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Aboighasem Moazeni, Geri Eddins, Martin Montoya, CC Chapman, Joclyn Crivello, Michael Visconti, Sara Vono-Caires, Sandra Buckley, Michele Pici, Khizra Syeda, Denise Tracy, and Noressa Santomenna

Absent: Jenny Lyons

A. Welcome and Call to Order

B. Review and Approve Minutes of 1/17/23 + 2/7/23

- a. Martin Montoya moves to approve, Mike Visconti seconds, unanimous vote to approve both sets of minutes

C. Invitation to Speak

- a. No guests

D. Financial Report: Martin

- a. Balance as of January 17th: \$1,845.41
- b. We are still waiting on our allocation for the grants due to a paperwork mishap, it should be in very soon

E. Old Business

- a. 2023 Grant Status
 - i. We are waiting on some agreements for the approved grants.
 - ii. Some events have already happened! RBG at the library occurred and one of the poetry readings.
 - 1. There were about 14 people there for the first reading - readers read their own original poetry
 - iii. The library is asking if they can film the poetry readings, currently waiting on permissions
 - 1. Would they allow milford TV to broadcast? Yes!
 - iv. *Let's Grow with Eric* moved to the Library from Matt's Hydroponic Store for their class on 4/22
- b. Multicultural Performance Stage at Celebrate Milford Planning
 - i. May 20th with a rain date of May 21 at the Town Park
 - ii. New details
 - 1. 10:30am - 12:30pm for us to present the performances
 - 2. All equipment will be there
 - 3. No seating provided, so we can use some of our allocation to rent seating for the day - seeing if Celebrate Milford Team will be there to set up the seating

- iii. We still need performers to fill in the spots - we have a couple of leads that we are hoping will apply soon!
- iv. Waiting to hear back about the festival grant - we will hear back by March.
- v. What would we want to do in the tent that we have? Hoping to be near the stage - cultural craft? Other ideas?
- vi. Everyone at Celebrate Milford has been wonderful to work with and they have been very supportive!
- c. Public Art Status and Opportunities
 - i. Game Boards and Chess Table
 - 1. The game boards are holding up well! No major damage whatsoever, just a bit of small wear and tear scratches. Mike cleaned off the table and spoke to a couple who asked if we could store chess pieces at the actual table itself.
 - a. For the pieces, we could ask for donations or make a little library which then could hold them
 - b. Under the table drawer? Shepherds hook holding a box?
 - c. Some of the trash cans that are in the park are losing their luster; Parks + Rec wasn't able to store them this winter and some things may need to be repaired.
 - i. Maybe someone will donate a bay in a storage facility for us to store pieces during the winter?
 - ii. Could we put it in the budget to get pieces refreshed every three years?
 - iii. Maybe town buildings could house the trash cans and use them during the winter months?
 - ii. Town Parks
 - 1. There was a public hearing last week to create a park across from the youth center - the town is currently seeking a grant for this and to make renovations for the town park.
 - 2. They want to create more parking, a new basketball / pickle ball court with 10' fencing, and a green space. There will be a crosswalk that goes directly to the Youth Center.
 - a. The one main worry is that people don't want to lose this area as a parking lot
 - 3. The people working on this design want us to collaborate on public art for the park!
 - a. Something on the fencing? Picnic tables? Mural?

4. In Town Park, there has been a grant approved from Blue Cross Blue Shield for a Fitness Court! The back side of the court will be for a mural - they are going to work with us to come up with themes and a call to artists. Money is coming from the grant!
 - a. The artist won't paint directly on the surface, it will be transferred to vinyl and the company will install it.
 - b. This isn't a far walk from schools, so all age groups can use it!

iii. Downtown Mural

1. Back in October, we were able to have the sign by law altered so we can have murals downtown.
2. Patty Salomon provided images/address of many properties that can have murals on them
3. 182-184 Main St owned by Dr. Patrick Assioun
 - a. Tried to have a mural approved years ago that was sea animal themed; now it is woodland animal themed
 - b. There are two sides of the building that can be painted now due to the change in the sign by law
 - c. He is fully funding this mural
 - d. We can request design changes.
 - e. The attorneys working with the property owner are very willing to work with us.
 - f. Discussed the need to create guidelines for murals—but a challenge because we do not want to restrict artists.
 - g. Need to work with the PA Policy Task Force to finalize policy.
 - h. Geri shared concerns expressed by Town Attorney indicating that the update to the sign bylaw does not specify that the Select Board and Cultural Council have definitive permitting authority.

iv. B2T Table

1. There is a new design proposal for a table that was painted during the first B2T that didn't hold up due to the nature of the material used.
 - a. We are going to ask if an artist that wasn't chosen during the first wave will paint her design on this table that showcases the 7 major nationality groups in

Milford. We would pay for the primer, the sealer and a stipend of \$500.

- b. Mike Visconti makes a motion to approve, Joclyn Crivello seconds, 11 approve, 1 denies

F. New Business

- a. Community Input Survey for 2023-24
 - i. CC will work on a Google Form to send out a survey to the public; this will go on social media and our website
 - ii. We should also send this to different principals and have it sent out to parents in the community.

G. Correspondence and Public Comments

- a. Two final reports from Grants, event flyers for She Grooves and the Plant Guy, and there was a Public Art article from Oregon.

H. Any Other Business

- a. Next Meeting March 23, 2023
- b. Motion to adjourn by CC Chapman, Sara Vono-Caires seconds, unanimous vote to adjourn.
- c. Meeting adjourned at 8:37