

Milford Cultural Council:

Minutes for August 23rd, 2023: MCC Monthly Meeting
Room 14 at Milford Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Geri Eddins, Christina Wiech, Aboighasem Moazeni, CC Chapman, Martin Montoya, Joclyn Crivello, Khizra Syeda and Sara Vono-Caires

Absent: Noressa Santomenna, Denise Tracy, Jenny Lyons, Michele Pici, and Sandra Buckley

A. Welcome and Call to Order

- a. Opening meeting at 7:03 without a quorum

B. Review and Approve Minutes of July 18th Meeting

- a. Waiting to approve minutes until the September meeting when we meet quorum.
- b. Add Joclyn and Khizra to Celebrate Milford Committee

C. Invitation to Speak

- a. Michael Visconti (former member) came to make a few points! (Typed in call and response form)
 - i. Where is the plaque at the chess table for town park?
 - 1. We will follow up with Jim Assam about this!
 - ii. The board game tables at Louisa Lake are taking a bit of a beating, is there a plan to maintain these tables or replace the tops?
 - 1. We will discuss this and make some sort of a plan.
 - iii. The rain gardens have been taken over by weeds and need to be cared for.
 - 1. This is under the Parks Commission's umbrella and we sadly do not have any control over this.
 - iv. Lots of use with the game tables!

D. Financial Report: Martin

- a. Balance: \$4,615.08
- b. Reimbursements and Deposits
 - i. None this month!
- c. Available Funds Remaining: \$4,615.08
- d. We will approve this financial report next month when we have a quorum!

E. Old Business

- a. Multicultural Performance Stage and Tent at Celebrate Milford 2024
(Meeting and Grant Status)

- i. Geri emailed the committee for Celebrate Milford to check in and they told her that they will be meeting in September and we are on the agenda.
 - ii. We applied for the additional \$2,500 for the festival grant and we should have that answer by the end of next month.
 - iii. Mad Science was a hit at the library!!
- b. Public Art Status and Opportunities
 - i. Game Boards + Chess Table: Storage for Game Pieces and Little Free Library Options
 - 1. One of the largest discussions regarding the free little libraries is who will be in charge of the upkeep for these structures? We need to think about different materials that can withstand the weather changes here!
 - a. Most of the materials are made of some sort of vinyl or composite that will hold up in the weather.
 - i. Found on littlefreelibrary.myshopify.com
 - ii. Going with a composite material will be our best bet!
 - b. At Louisa Lake we would store 2 sets of chess pieces and 2 sets of checkers.
 - c. At Town Park we would need one set of chess pieces and one set of checkers.
 - 2. Jim Assam said he would install one at Town Park and one at Louisa Lake.
 - 3. Before the next meeting, Ebby + Christina will put together a list of total costs and what this would look like to order for the two game piece little libraries.
 - ii. Downtown Murals
 - 1. Geri has done some research about call to artists and payment for artists who work on city murals.
 - 2. One mural project is 181-185 Main St where the building owner is going to pay for it.
 - a. More research is being done to see if a call to artists can be done and how to go about it and different materials used.
 - 3. The other is going to be on the outside wall of the outdoor gym that is being built in Town Park!
 - 4. For our public art policy, the city of Boston came out with a new policy last year and we are going to look into it for wording and ideas.

- iii. B2T Tables and T2T Barrel Status
 - 1. Two tables that have been out for repair are almost done! One is fully done and will hopefully be out by labor day weekend.
 - 2. Nicole King's table is being worked on; we are still trying to figure out where it will go! If Milford does get the grant for Parks, it will most likely go there.
 - 3. Khizra is hoping to have her barrel done by the last week of August or the first week of September!

F. New Business

- a. Upcoming Grant Season:
 - i. Schedule:
 - 1. Grants open on September 1st
 - 2. Last day for applications is October 17th
 - ii. Allocation: \$21,100
 - 1. We will vote on setting aside money for our own projects and administrative duties at a future meeting
 - iii. Priorities:
 - 1. At our last meeting, we voted on using last year's priorities again this year. They should be updated on the website very soon!
 - 2. We are waiting for IT to post the new grant application tips on our website.
 - iv. Options for Promoting
 - 1. Make sure promotional pieces are in Spanish and Portuguese as well as English!
 - 2. Talk to the library about having promotional flyers on a table and possibly manning a table for a night to invite people who have questions to run by us.
 - a. Tables manned by Geri, Sandra, Sara, Martin and Joclyn
 - 3. Radio + TV interviews! Martin!
 - v. Review Process
 - 1. Geri went over the whole process and walked us through the steps of how we approve
 - 2. One question: should we not be able to go below 3 in our voting scale? We will talk about it at a future meeting where we can vote.
 - 3. Ebby has a great idea to make sure we can get younger people, including high school students, to apply for grants

this year! We could hold a grant writing class or have teachers help them write grants for themselves.

- a. Another venue to do this would be the town youth center.

- i. Christina is going to talk to the Youth Center to see when would be a good time for us to set up a table and talk about the grant writing process.

- b. Brainstorming MCC Projects

- i. After party after the Santa Parade

- ii. Holiday Stroll

- iii. We will put these ideas on hold for right now for a future meeting

G. Correspondence and Public Comments

- a. We have two grant reports! One from the Hopkinton Center for the Arts and one about the concert at the senior center.

- b. Ken, a visitor from our June meeting, sent us a wonderful email and wants to stay connected with us!

H. Any Other Business. Next Meeting September 19, 2023

- a. Meeting adjourned at 8:31