

Milford Cultural Council

Meeting Minutes for June 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Room 14, Milford Town Hall

A. Welcome and Call to Order

- ☐ Meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Geri Eddins, Chair.
- ☐ Present Members: Geri Eddins, Vinnie Kiejzo, Nicole Romiglio, Mike Visconti, Jim Buckley, Patti Salomon, Molly Auger, Bryan Cole, Marcia Macre
- ☐ Not Present: Michael Lalime, Meghan Oliveira, Christopher Vendetti, Marco Carneiro

B. Invitation to Speak

- ☐ No community members present: passed

C. Review and Approve Minutes of April 4, 2019 Meeting

- Jim Buckley motion to approve, Vinnie Kiejzo seconded. – approved unanimously

D. Announcements

- ☐ Upcoming MCC Events. Folks able to attend?
 - Flyers passed around to determine availability
- ☐ Other Announcements?
 - None

E. Financial Report

- ☐ Balance as of June 18, 2019: \$1,544.06 (Discrepancy)
 - This financial report is assuming a starting balance of \$0
 - There is a discrepancy between the balance and the invoice amounts that are approved to be paid.
 - Geri Edins to meet with Town Accountant to reconcile
 - Bryan Cole suggests assigning a treasurer for internal bookkeeping
 - Nicole Romiglio thinks internal bookkeeping should be part of Chairpersons' responsibilities; decision to be made via bylaws
 - Possible reason for discrepancy is differing grant year and fiscal year calendars and available funding.
- ☐ No communication has been received from Jesica LeBrecque regarding rescinding approval

F. Membership

- ☐ BOS decision regarding 13 members
 - BOS decision was ambiguous – all members to review BOS meeting and discuss at July meeting
 - BOS seems to say that membership should be up to 20, but quorum is ½ current membership plus one
 - BOS reappointed members (to be reviewed on tape)
 - Jenny Lyons appointed as new members.

G. Identity, Communications, and Outreach

Review status of the following:

- Webpage and Email Address
 - CulturalCouncil@townofmilford.com
 - Email to be handled by single member – Nicole Romiglio to monitor inbox
- Logo
 - A few options were presented by P. Salomon
 - Marcia Macri would like to see more life/vibrant logo
 - Logo subcommittee will revisit
- Mission Statement
 - 2 options were presented. Jim Buckley moved to adopt the Mission Statement as follows “ As a local partner of the MA Cultural Council, the Milford Cultural Council seeks to promote excellence, inclusion, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and sciences to foster a rich cultural life for all Milford residents, thereby contributing to the vitality of our community and economy.” – seconded by Vinnie Kiejzo. Approved: Unanimous
- Bylaws: Bryan and Mike
 - Bryan Cole emailed Town Counsel C. Boddy and was advised to draft bylaws and then have him look at them. No need for BOS approval – but cross-checking for legal soundness was advised
 - Bryan is looking over area bylaws and tailoring them to Milford Cultural Council and will report back
 - Bryan advised his intent to have a comprehensive social media policy
 - Bryan may keep a live document for the Council membership to work interactively on the draft of bylaws – possibly google document.
 - Bryan also advised his intent to clarify conflict of interest, specifically related to current and former council members seeking funds.
 - Mike Visconti advised that he spoke to some area council chairs and they do not feel it’s necessary to have additional Conflict of Interest rules beyond what is provided by the MA council guidelines. Town Counsel Boddy suggested starting with the MCC guidelines and make additions as the Milford Council sees fit, and he will review them.
 - Mike Visconti presented the Council with the following verbiage “1. Former LCC members may not apply for a grant for themselves or on behalf of a third party within two (2) years of leaving the LCC 2.) for purposes of document “Immediate family member” shall be defined as the spouse, parents, children, brothers and sisters of the LCC Member and the parents, children, brothers and sisters of LCC member’s spouse. 3.) Current members not to apply, per MCC regulations”
 - Bryan Cole will incorporate above COI into bylaw drafts
 - Jim Buckley questioned the need to vote on the above additions, but group decided that voting should be once there’s a comprehensive draft
- Facebook Page
 - Geri Eddins suggests 3 people to manage any social media pages
 - Purpose: advertise upcoming events, announce grant cycle, photos of past events

- Bryan Cole posed question: Does Town have a social media policy?
- Vinnie Kiejzo motioned to table discussion of FB page until we have clarification on town rules regarding social media, seconded by Patti Salomon. Voted: unanimous
- Press Release to Introduce MCC to Community
 - Molly Auger to work on press releases
 - Target audience: local media
 - Purpose: to seek input from the public, publicize next meeting – goal to release before July meeting
 - Motion made by Nicole Romiglio to allow release prior to next meeting, with chairpersons approval, seconded by Mike Visconti Vote: Unanimous
- H. Moving Forward: LCC Schedule and Priorities
 - Report on Meeting with Town Planner: Larry Duncan
 - Geri & Bryan met with the Town Planner to discuss the sign bylaw and its relevance to any possible art displays. Advised that the location would make a difference, as well as the type of art display. LCC questioned definition of a “sign”, as that could potentially effect many art forms.
 - Meeting with L. Duncan resulted in an advisement to seek window displays as public art, as there is no conflict with sign bylaw.
 - Bryan Cole suggested we should review the full bylaw for our own purposes and proactively pursue an amendment to the bylaw to allow for art displays
 - Vinnie Keijzo made a motion to seek amendment, seconded by Pati Salomon. Vote: all in favor aside from one abstention from Jim Buckley.
 - Public Art Possibilities for 2020 Grant Cycle
 - Vinnie to look into possibly collaborating with Highway Dept to replace lightpole banners and create an art display with them
 - Multiple display option discussed, but without knowing town rules/bylaws, discussion was tabled.
 - Long-term possibilities, brainstorming
 - Tabled until July meeting
- I. Any Other Business
 - Next meeting: July 16, 2019 7pm