

Hudson Cultural Council Minutes

Meeting Date: November 29, 2022

Location: Zoom Meeting
ID# 810 1443 0596

Members Present via Roll Call: Lawrence Fine, Peter Fiske, Lindsay Kelkres, Ellen Kisslinger, Cheryl Lombardo (entered at 7:04), Patricia Luoto, Doris Monteiro, Debbie Papa, Donna Specian

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Patricia Luoto, Co-Chair.

On a motion by Lindsay Kelkres and seconded by Debbie Papa, the members voted 8-0 by roll call to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2022 council meeting. Cheryl Lombardo was not present for the vote.

Old Business:

Debbie Papa announced that Henry Lappen was not able to perform at the October 15, 2022 *RecFest* as outlined in his original FY22 Grant FY22-LCC-6616 *Henry the Juggler Performance* for which he received a payment of \$450. Two emails have been sent to Henry requesting that he return the funds.

The Co-Treasurers will be contacting Symphony Pro Musica and Nashoba Symphonic Band to remind them to submit final reports for their FY22 grants.

Regarding Aileen Sanchez-Himes' request for a modification on grant #FY22-LCC-2991 *Step into History and Culture*, Ellen Kisslinger made a motion to approve the modification as outlined in the Library Director's November 18, 2022 letter. The motion was seconded by Debbie Papa. The members voted 9-0 by roll call to approve the motion. Doris Monteiro will send a letter to Aileen notifying her of the council's decision.

After discussion regarding concerns about the direct grant process for the current and last grant cycle, the members decided to review the grant payment process at the August 2023 meeting. Should the council vote to go back to the reimbursement model, the decision would need to be done by September 1, 2023. It would be reported to MCC when the council's voting priorities are updated on the state's portal. The grant payment process would also be stated in press releases and on the council's website.

Doris Monteiro reported that there were no reconsideration requests from grant applicants who were denied funding. Pat Luoto will submit the annual report to MCC on November 30, 2022. Doris will send out award letters to grantees on that date.

Doris brought up some verbiage that she would like to include in the award letters to the grantees who were to receive funding in excess of their requested amount. It was her hope that the additional wording would clarify that the increased amount was not a typographical error and would reinforce that all expenses would still need to be documented and reported to the council. After discussion and revision of the proposed language, a motion was made by Debbie Papa and seconded by Peter Fiske to accept the modification. The members voted 9-0 by roll call to approve the motion.

Doris will reach out in early December to the state legislators for a quote regarding this year's HCC grant recipients and their funded projects and will hopefully have a press release ready to go out by early January to announce this year's awards.

Pat Luoto mentioned that she and Donna Specian will be submitting the council's annual town report to the Select Board's Office in mid-winter. This report is published and distributed in time for the May Town Meeting.

New Business:

Pat Luoto announced that she will need to go off the council at the end of 2023 and was looking for someone else to come forward to co-chair the council. Seeing that no one volunteered, a slate of officers for the new council year was presented as: Donna Specian, Chair; Doris Monteiro, Secretary; with Cheryl Lombardo and Debbie Papa, Co-Treasurers. On a motion by Doris Monteiro and seconded by Peter Fiske, the members voted 9-0 by roll call to accept the slate of officers.

Donna and Lindsay briefly went over the timeline of the annual community survey. It should be reviewed and updated in late winter/early spring with a target date to begin collecting data in early May and to continue until mid-June. The council will again use Survey Planet for this grant cycle.

When the topic of the HCC's participation in Hudson Fest and Arts Fest came up, a suggestion was made that the council alternate between one and the other. It is not necessary to do both each year.

Miscellaneous:

It was determined that the council advertise for new members via a press release in early March so that any perspective members could attend a spring meeting. Lindsay was encouraged to keep "How to Join the Council" directions on the HCC website throughout the year.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lawrence Fine and seconded by Donna Specian. The council voted 9 to 0 via a roll call to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 PM.

Future Meeting:

Tuesday, March 21st, 2023 at 7:00 PM via Zoom – To discuss the 2023 Community Input Survey and to determine the HCC's participation in Hudson Arts Fest.

Respectfully submitted,
Doris Monteiro, Secretary