

Sturbridge Cultural Council Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 17, 2021

Call to order

Chair Kerry Carey called to order the regular meeting of the Sturbridge Cultural Council(SCC) at 5:08 PM on August 17, 2021. The meeting was in the Julian Room in the Town Hall.

Quorum Check

The following members were present: Kerry Carey(KC), Ed Cornely(EC), Joyce Sinnott(JS), Roxann Smith(RS), Joann Dupre(JD). A quorum was met. Reed Ide(RI) joined the meeting at 5:47 PM and was present for the Council/Local Priorities and the rest of the agenda.

New Member Introductions

Joann Dupre introduced herself. The other new members, Jim Douglas and Antonia Squier, were unable to attend the meeting.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings

The minutes from the previous meetings on March 8, 2021 and May 17, 2021 were reviewed. There were minor date corrections. The committee voted to accept the minutes as amended. JD abstained from the vote as she was not present at those meetings.

New Grant System Overview

KC gave an overview of the new system and verified members were receiving email from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Council/Local Priorities for This Year

The council discussed changes to the funding priorities and evaluation criteria. These are listed below and the changes/additions are bolded. EC moved to accept the changes as discussed. JS seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Sturbridge Cultural Council gathers input from the community to help us determine funding priorities. For this year, the Sturbridge Cultural Council will give priority to:

- Projects/**Programs** that enrich the lives of Sturbridge residents
- Projects/**Programs** that encourage community involvement
- Projects/**Programs** that increase awareness of cultural diversity **and inclusion**
- Applicants who have secured a local venue **and have a letter of support from the venue**

In addition to the state criteria, applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- How well the program meets our local priorities
- Ability to address the needs of a specific population in Sturbridge, or support forms of cultural activities for all residents Financial need
- Demonstrated planning **which includes:**
 - **A clear objective**
 - **Support from a local venue**
 - **Tentative date(s) or timeline**

Grant Cycle Promotion Plan

KC to update the council website and Facebook page. She also will share the info on the Facebook page to the Sturbridge Community and other local community pages. Council members can also share the info on their own pages if they wish.

KC will update the flyer and JD will print the flyer and distribute it locally.

KC will also email previous grantees announcing the upcoming grant cycle.

JS announced that the Joshua Hyde Library will be holding a year-long celebration of the 125th anniversary of the founding of the library. She will notify the library of the opportunity for applicants to apply for SCC grants.

EC to check to see how to get this info published in the local newspapers.

Treasury Update

JS reported on grants funded/completed for 2020/2021. Surprisingly, only 2 grantees have submitted the complete paperwork to be paid. The same instructions for past years has been communicated to the grantees.

Old business

None

New business

JS that she will be at her term limit November 2022 and no longer will be the treasurer of the council. She suggested that anyone interested in that position shadow her activities next year.

EC's term will expire next year.

KC reminded us that the survey needs to be done yearly and we will discuss the questions at the next meeting.

We will also elect board members at the next meeting.

Tentatively, the next meeting will be during the first week of October. KC will secure a date, time and location

Adjournment

JS moved to adjourn. EC seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 PM