

Cultural Council Meeting December 14, 2015

In attendance:

Julie Held, John Zimmerman, Robbie Heidinger, Sarah Mulvehill, Grey Reynolds, Ann Lewis, Robby Armenti

Absent: Jackie Brodeur

Secretary: Sarah Mulvehill

Treasurer: Greg Reynolds

Ann updated the group that Julie Held's term on the Cultural Council has ended, so she is attending as a member of a public rather than as a voting member.

Reviewed minutes of last year's meeting. Approved, no changes.

Reviewed term endings for each member:

Ann Lewis: 10/2016

Armenti: 11/21/2020

Mulvehill: 1/12/2017

Reynolds: 11/18/2019

Heidinger: 1/12/2017

Zimmerman: 1/6/2016

Brodeur: 1/6/2016

This means two people should be replaced this winter, and Ann Lewis should be replaced by spring. Ann Lewis has asked Carol Lollis and Lara Ramsey. All members should recruit one additional member to rebuild the group. Everyone to email Ann Lewis by January 1 to let her know who they are inviting/recruiting.

Robby Armenti agreed to take over chairperson position from Ann. Ann will provide training.

Reminder: Everyone has to complete the state ethics training online. Ann will send everyone the link to the training site.

Town gives \$75 for administrative costs. Ann asked for only \$100 from the state grant funds (instead of last year's \$250).

Emily Neuberger, a grantee last year, opted not to use the funds granted to her, so \$200 returned to Council funds.

Elizabeth Myersohn may not complete her program, so that's potentially another \$200 if not used by Jan. 6.

Charles Neville hasn't requested reimbursement yet – must do by Jan. 6. Ann will give Robby his email address and Robby will contact him with reminder.

Discussed feedback about last year's partial grants – three or four people mentioned this was an issue for them. Conversation about fully funding where we can (library programs, etc.)

Total to fund this year (minus administrative fees and plus returned funds:
\$4631.00

Grant Reviews:

1. Fran Ryan – Horizon Productions for Council on Aging – YES FULL \$500
2. Julie Ann Stepanek – YES FULL \$300
3. Pied Potter Hamelin – NO, not enough interest in supporting
4. Amy Cyr – Otha Day Drum To the Beat – YES FULL \$170
5. Hampshire Music Booster - HRHS musical – YES FULL \$500
6. Deane Bates – Elem field trip – YES FULL \$732
7. Friends of Westhampton Library Summer Concert Series – YES Partial \$539
8. Ruth Harcovitz – YES FULL \$375
9. Westhampton Public Library – Robots on the Run – YES FULL \$300
10. Westhampton Public Library – Dragons and Dreams – YES FULL \$315
11. North Hall Association, Huntington – YES partial \$200
12. Chester Theater Company – YES partial \$200
13. Hilltown Families – YES FULL \$100
14. Starr Adams/Wild Thyme – NO, program not clearly articulated, will encourage for next year – recording, proposed venue, etc.
15. Mary Witt & The O-Tones – YES \$400 – if there's a free venue, then would hope they would reduce/eliminate ticket cost
16. Edward M. Wirt – Windjammers Jazz – NO, not specific enough
17. Henry Lappen, Juggler – NO, not enough interest in town
18. Circus Sketch Lab – NO, concept not clearly articulated

Meeting adjourned 8:53