

SHELBURNE CULTURAL COUNCIL MINUTES

May 10, 2021

The Shelburne Cultural Council meeting of May 10, 2021 was called to order by chair Connie Clarke at 6:42 p.m. The meeting was conducted via the ZOOM virtual meeting platform in keeping with COVID pandemic guidelines.

Present: Connie Clarke, Owen Bragdon, Kate Whittaker, Yana Cortlund Feasey, Jacqui Goodman, Eben Sorkin, Kay Berenson, Jennifer Bauman, Sally (Honor) Judd, Nancy Eisenstein.

Absent: Diane Poland, Samantha Feury

Minutes of the previous meeting (March 11) were unanimously approved with no changes.

Barbara Watts was introduced as potential new member of the council. Council members voted to submit her nomination to the Shelburne Select Board for appointment. She agreed to be appointed by the Selectboard in due course. Connie shared that Linn Bower is also interested in becoming a member, but could not attend tonight's meeting; she plans to attend the next one.

Connie reviewed several grantees whose programs and/or venues had been modified and/or changed: one grantee changed its venue to outdoors in keeping with Covid restrictions; one grantee had changed its proposal program without request for modification or reflected budgetary change and updated W9 form, or promotion to Shelburne residents—all requirements of the Mass Cultural Council.

Reimbursement will be held back pending completed documentation. Decision to hold firm on grantee responsibilities unanimously approved by Council Members.

Yana presented an excellent overview of the website she has been developing since the Council's last meeting with constructive input from others, including a thorough detailed 3-year budget. All supported Yana's approach, which she laid out in the set of documents she sent out

ahead of the meeting. The new website's immediate benefits will clearly provide the Council greater overall visibility for its role as a key agent for supporting the arts and cultural events in the greater Shelburne community. Its design and break-out content will also improve the Council's community outreach support to help all who apply for SCC grants to understand and fulfill MCC requirements, as well as inform residents, artists, and visitors. The new website will work in sync with the official Shelburne Town LCC website page to fulfill the Open Meeting Law and various official Town regulations. In the ensuing discussion, members offered constructive suggestions and we all agreed that before it is launched the website will be put to the test with feedback from members of the Council, constituent grantees, and representatives of the public.

Connie noted that at its February 11 Voting Meeting, the Council unanimously agreed to fund its own 2021 Council Project based on her recommendation that the Town's 2021 allocation of \$4900 made it possible to earmark the full 15% "off the top" allowed by MCC for a Council to undertake its own project. After discussion, it was unanimously voted to undertake a SCC project, which was given the official SCC grant number of 2021-24, with developing a website the most compelling.

This evening, the decision to confirm moving forward on developing the website as the 2021 Council Project was unanimous. Connie explained briefly the next administrative steps in order to both keep track and process expenses in a timely manner. She said she'd review these steps with Yana before the Council's next meeting. When appropriate, she will have conversations with the Town's treasurer and accountant as well as the Council's MCC liaison.

Yana put out a call to members for the name of our project. She also solicited members to form sub-committees that will focus on aspects of the website's links. Eben, Jennifer, Kate and Barbara (in advance of her appointment to the calendar) agreed to focus on Image/Gallery; Owen,

Jacqui and Connie on Events Calendar. Members unanimously agreed to help with all elements of website support.

Eben presented updated ideas for a SCC logo and discussed typography and its role in creating the look and feel of the website. The need for a possible tagline was also discussed and will be revisited next meeting (to be announced).

Everyone in attendance took the time at this moment to thank Yana for the tremendous thought, time, and effort she put into conceptualizing the website. Yana in turn acknowledged the tech support of Seth Wilschutz and Eben Sorkin for their strategic areas of expertise.

Council discussed changes in leadership related to the pending end of terms of office of many Council members. Owen has agreed to become Co-Chair, Jennifer as Treasurer and Kate as Secretary. The search for Chair will be discussed further at the next meeting. Connie stressed her hope that the new Chair would be identified so that the full roster of officers could be voted in before her term ends on June 30. All members who need to complete the State's Conflict of Interest training were reminded the deadline set by the Town Clerk is June 30. If needed, Connie offered to help.

With the Council's business completed, a motion to adjourn, seconded and unanimously approved at 8:47.

Minutes by Kate Whittaker, Secretary-elect, with assist from Kay Berenson and Connie Clarke