

## **Wakefield Cultural Council**

**Sunday, January 6, 2018 at 7:00 pm**

**Meeting Location: Boys & Girls Club of Wakefield (Americal Civic Center)**

**Members Present:** Caroline Lieber, Rob MacRobbie, Sarah Guerin, Andy Levine and Colleen Getty

**Members Apologies:** Manmeet Desai

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** We approved the previous minutes.

### **Agenda Item #1: How to distribute the extra funding**

**Discussion:** Caroline goes over the numbers and the possible reasons why there is more funding than expected, but with the turn-over of board members it's difficult to know exactly, but there is \$1,073.12 extra to be distributed. It is possible that one of the PTOs who were awarded some funding and decided not to claim it due to change in leadership and loss of paperwork could have contributed. There was also a delayed reimbursement for a late claim of \$550 from Delvena Theatre Company. Those are two possibilities.

**Action:** The council votes 5 yes and 0 no to distribute the extra funds to applicants who were already agreed upon by the group since rejection letters were already sent out and many of the applicants we awarded were not funded fully.

### **Agenda Item #2: Specific allocation of funding**

**Discussion:** After deciding to focus on already approved applicants there was discussion on how to distribute the funding with the unknown element being that there may have been a check written that was not just accounted for due to the delay in process between town accounting and state accounting through the Mass Cultural Council itself. Those things take time. So, as a group we decided to vote on the lesser amount of \$523.12 to distribute in the event that a funding check just had not been cashed yet and then award the \$550 as well in case the full amount of \$1,073.12 is indeed available. Distributing it out separately will eliminate another meeting regardless of the total amount available after Caroline makes one more check with our Mass Cultural Council representative Arreen Andrew.

**Action:** Sarah had record of our decisions from the last meeting and saw that there were three applicants who we had to lessen the award due to lack of funding and so we decided it would be simplest to restore the original amounts we wanted to award to those three: Whimsical Weavings (\$100 extra), the Musery (\$100 more) and Nora Dooly (\$200 more) and then award any remaining to the Murals project (\$123.12 more) and if the additional \$550 is still available we will put that towards the Murals project as well since that is something the whole council supported and was excited about. The vote was 5 Yes 0 No.

### **Agenda Item #3: Rejections Decisions and Letters**

**Discussion:** A topic that had come up in the past was reintroduced by Caroline regarding being more specific in our letters of rejection in telling applicants exactly what details went into the decision. That while "lack of funding" is a valid reason since each council simply does not receive enough funding to fund everything, we should be more specific in the reasons why that specific applicant did not receive funding at all. The group agreed that would be helpful and there was brief discussion about the upcoming Grant Reception in May. In the past we have purchased food from Zuzu's Café, wine from Greenwood Spirits and other ideas are welcome. We also discussed the possibility of added the element of a networking event for local artists and cultural organizations to the reception to enhance our role as a cultural council.

**Action:** \*Colleen: Agreed to contact Joy Schilling and Chris Carino to see when the AP art exhibit would be help and if Ace is available for the reception. \*Sarah: Agreed to contact Nancy Bertrand to see about having some of the historical paintings that have been restored over the years with funding from WCC to be available to display at the reception allowing attendees and the general public an opportunity to view the paintings. \*Caroline: Agreed to forward an email she received from Arreen Andrew to Colleen and we could send a quick response about the role of the council in the town of Wakefield.

**Next Meeting:** Unscheduled currently, but one will be planned for early Spring to prepare for grant reception

**Minutes Prepared By:** Colleen Getty