

Newton Cultural Council

June 26, 2023

5:30 PM

Present:

Chris Pitts, Marie Longo, Clara Chan, Cheryl Weber, Livia Aber, Sam Belisle, Lu Cao, Robert Linsky, Susan Friedman, Candy Gold, Anne Marie Stein, Paula Gannon

Approval of Minutes

Minutes Unanimously approved.

Paula introduced Lu Cao, who is the new Associate Director of Cultural Development now working with Paula.

Treasurer's Report/Remaining Grant Disbursements

Only two grants remain to be signed and monies disbursed: Fence Art and Crankie. Fence Art has particular issues that Paula is working with Fence Art to resolve.

Amount that remains in the account \$2072.56 will be the balance in account once all grants are sent out. That can be used for administrative purposes.

Dinosaur Annex has had a name change and is requesting approval. Two members approved this request Marie and Susan.

Survey

A team met about the survey and edited last year's survey. The group that met included Sam, Chris, Susan and Anne Marie. Discussion about the question of priorities and categories. Agreed to change youth programs to children/family programming.

Robert made a motion to accept survey as written. Candy seconded. Unanimously approved.

Survey Marketing

It will be distributed through the following:

- Newton Cultural Alliance
- NCC website
- Cultural Development webpage and newsletter
- Mayor's Newsletter
- Cultural Development Social Media
- NCC Facebook (Chris)
- Newton Patch
- Fig City

There is also a flyer with a qr code that will connect to survey that Paula will begin distributing tomorrow at the farmer's market. Free concerts are beginning, and volunteers can go and hand out flyers. Concerts begin July 9th.

Discussion also about goals for survey participation and what would constitute a statistically relevant sample. A minimum goal should be to exceed last year's numbers, which was about 80. Survey will close August 29th.

Sam suggested adding a raffle prize. Suggestions include Cabots, JP Licks, Johnny's Diner, Little Big Diner. Suggested that this be sent back to the survey committee. They will figure it out. Paula will also check with the city about protocols regarding offering any incentives.

Grantee Reception Update

The group has met twice: Marie, Sam and Clara

A document outlining the target audience, event goals, program, room set up, food& beverage, Promotion and budget was distributed. Marie walked through the goals and logistics.

Comments:

- 45 minutes of time before the program might be too long.
- Target Audience: include potential Newton Cultural Council members. Also, other Newton cultural organizations.
- Agreed that it would be good to have some kind of a list available of all of the grantees at the reception.
- Speakers: suggested that people think about it and discuss at next meeting. Chris would like to have the director of the MCC attend. Sam suggested Jamaal Eversley for a speaker as a grantee testimony.

Sam has offered to design an evite. Need to have a distribution/ mailing list. Discussion of using funds remaining.

Marketing Grantees

Chris mentioned that Newton Community Television could possibly do a podcast.

Election of Officers

Glenda willing and able to continue to serve at least another year. Emily would like to step back but is willing to continue should there not be any other candidates. Chris and Emily are due to rotate off the Council in June. Agreed that we should continue with current slate of officers, and since Chris and Emily will be leaving we can revisit a change in the Executive Committee during the year. Susan so moved. Candy seconded. Unanimously approved.

Slate of Officers for new year:

Emily O'Neil Co Chair
Chris Pitts Co Chair
Glenda Fishman Treasurer
Ann Marie Stein Secretary

Meeting Adjourned

7:05 pm