

Minutes for NCC Meeting on Feb. 26, 2023

- In attendance were Paula, Chris, Clara, Glenda, Emily, Cheryl, Susan, and Anne Marie in person; Sam, Jeff, and Lisa Rucinski on Zoom, and visitors Julie Fox (in person), Lori Stein (on Zoom).
- We welcomed Jeff to the council, as he was approved by the Mayor since our last meeting.
- We voted unanimously for Glenda for Treasurer (nominated by Glenda, seconded by Chris), Clara for clerk (nominated/seconded by Anne Marie/Susan/Cheryl/Emily?), Anne Marie for co-chair (nominated by Chris, seconded by Clara), Chris for co-chair (nominated by Chris, seconded by Emily) until Jeff can take over in June (as he is too busy until then and wants to learn the ropes).
- Glenda gave her monthly fiscal report, in summary: [We filed the required financial report to MCC on 10/17/23 to determine how much we'd get for this round of grants. The result was that we had a total of \\$53,798 consisting of money leftover from last year plus \\$27K from MCC and \\$27K from the City of Newton. Adding to this the \\$1080 given back from an unused F23 grant \(producer passed away\), we had a total of \\$54,878. We adjudicated and spread that total among 53 grantees. To accept their grants, grantees must fill out forms, which Paula and staff sent to all grantees. We have 32 already returned, to be signed in this meeting by 2 council members. \(\\$32,428 total\) Waiting for the rest \(totaling \\$22,450, including the Piano Summit award which can not be used since that project is on hold\).](#)
- Anne Marie and Glenda signed the grantee award forms.
- Minutes from last meeting 1.29.24 were approved.
- Adjudication review— we reviewed and modified the adjudication form, question by question. Points of discussion: 1. Grant usage period still 18 months starting in July? TBD. 2. Handicap Accessibility question? “to the best of their ability” so we will have it not be required, though still should be asked. 3. The question on whether the grant impacts newton citizens is redundant with a later question so being removed. The question about benefiting the community or an underserved population was rewritten to be specifically about under-resourced and otherwise marginalized segments. 4. Public school programs allowed or not? TBD. 5. Cutting the questions about programmatic nondiscrimination, food being served, technical/expertise, applicant/organization being based in Newton. 6. Let's stick to programmatic vs operational funding since our budget is so small. 7. Should we add a question asking if this project is by emerging artists? What was the answer to that question in last year's community survey? TBD. 8. Should confirmed venue/date be required? It's a 1-5 question as opposed to Yes/No. Let's keep it that way. 9. Are the artists being paid? Make that a Yes/No question. Decide later how to assign points for that answer. 10. Add “Would this grant have a significant impact on the quality of the project?” 11. Modify leveraged resources question to specify “cash or in-kind?”. 12. Add “How strongly do you feel that this project should be funded, 1-5?”
- Anne Marie has reviewed the roles of the officers, will share and put on next Agenda.
- Julie Fox introduced herself. Said her son (who produces theater) needs a venue, not money, and would not qualify for an NCC grant based on tonight's discussion.
- Emily asked if we could reschedule our next meeting as it would overlap with the Cultural District discussion at the Allen House. Anne Marie asked if our meeting could take place there just before. Chris said he could ask.