

Newton Cultural Council
Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2022

Attendees:

Sam Belisle Chali Dones, Glenda Fishman, Paula Gannon, Gloria Gavis, Candy Gold, Kathy Hassinger, Grey Held, Amelia LeClair, Danielle Moriarty, Emily O'Neil, Chris Pitts, Anne Marie Stein

Meeting began at 5:33P

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made to approve minutes. All approved.

Election of Officers:

- Treasurer - Glenda Fishman was nominated and all approved.
- Secretary - The council discussed the role of Secretary.
- Paula discussed the role of Secretary to include minutes, agenda, postings. Candy will meet with Jane to learn more about the role. No vote was taken.
- Co Chair - A motion was made to nominate both Chris and Emily as Co Chairs. All approved.

Grantee Events:

- Many council members attended Our Tears are the Same color.
- Emily suggested revising the community survey to include questions about individual events.
- Danielle talked about questionnaires at the events.
- Kathy discussed Pro Arte event - Small space, Allen House, Challenging for dance but was well done.
- Kathy discussed encouraging more BIPOC programs.
- Emily talked about BIPOC programing that has taken place at the New Art. She suggested we revise our criteria form with more weight on BIPOC programs.

Treasurer Report:

- Paula reported that 54 grants approved, Thirty one have been paid and two final reports have been submitted.
- \$217 in our account. Waiting now for the MCC \$23,800 to be approved by the city council,
- Things are moving along well.

Action Items to Follow up:

- Grantees have been asked to post on the Arts calendar. Paula has reached out to all grantees to post their events and it is working.
- A piece will be in the Mayor's report to 33,000 emails to promote the arts calendar.
- The marketing committee should be posting on a regular basis.
- Kathy discussed the Boston Globe and sending a press release 6, 3, and one week out.

- Paula asked the group if they use the google drive. Some people do use it and all should learn to be familiar with it.
- Emily suggested a google doc, that is stand alone for the NCC.

Grantee Reception:

- Emily will send out a doodle poll.

Cambridge Arts Debrief:

- Chris will put together a recap from the Cambridge Arts meeting with Jason Weeks.
- Amelia suggested creating a committee to discuss the arts in Newton. We need to figure out what Cambridge does and how we can be prepared for our future.
- Paula has been active with Newton's cultural future.
- Paula also suggested we put together all our comments and thoughts on the adjudication process and urged the council to work through them sooner rather than later.
- Chris discussed a strategic plan for the NCC. Anne Marie agreed with this and the plan should include the issues and bullet points discussed at our last adjudication process.
- Candy discussed the importance of our grant dollars and how we should address the funding. What is our strategy?
- Agenda item, changes to adjudication process?' Strategic planning.
- Anne Marie has experience in strategic planning and would be willing to guide the council.