

Minutes: Belmont Cultural Council
October 20, 2014
Belmont Town Hall, Room 4

2015 JAN 16 AM 9:21

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm.

Present: Ken Stalberg, (chair); John Baboian, Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas, Sarah Ellison, Lauralee Gianotti, Annette Goodro, Jirair Hovsepian, Anne Quirk (treasurer)

Absent: Anne Levy, Rebecca Richards

Chair Ken Stalberg noted that, according to the MCC, five members of the BCC still need to complete the LCC training. Both Lauralee Gianotti and Annette Goodro assured the BCC that they had completed the training very recently. Other members were reminded to do so.

Mr. Stalberg noted that the newest members of the BCC had only been appointed for one year, instead of the usual three.

Anne Quirk had sent out the minutes from the previous meeting on September 18th, 2014, to the BCC before the meeting, and the first item of business was to accept the minutes.

Mr. Stalberg then noted that this year, only 18 grant proposals were sent to the BCC by the October 15th deadline, which was a slight decline from previous years, but also pointed out that there was only one proposal without a local partner, instead of 4. So in fact, the BCC received the usual number of viable grant proposals.

Mr. Stalberg organized the 18 proposals, and looked at a ten-year grant history of those requestors, including dates, denials and/or dollar awards.

Ms. Quirk noted that the money that is available to the BCC from the MCC (\$4520.00) is about half the amount of money that the applicants are requesting (\$9895.00). She also noted that the MCC has unspent money from last two grant cycles that needs to be spent on grants-- \$300.00 from this year, and \$500.00 from a mural project in 2013, which would make the grant monies to be awarded this year total \$5320. Ms. Quirk also pointed out that there are also left over, unencumbered funds after that money is spent that totals \$1494.00—and the BCC could possibly add another \$700.00 to the grant monies if so wanted. Mr. Stalberg pointed out that this is more money than we have had in a long time.

The committee then reviewed grant procedure: No grants can be awarded to grantees who have not procured a local partner; No grants for field trips. Mr. Stalberg said that a letter came in support of a grant proposal that didn't come in. Otherwise there are 17 applications to be assigned to BCC members. We will do research, phone the applicants, and think about the potential benefit of each grant to

Belmont. At the next meeting, all BCC members will report on their assigned grants--possibly using the rating scale—or not, as they shall choose.

Really up to you--just so your opinion gets to the council. Sometime after the reports, the council may raise more questions. There will then be a final meeting, in which the monetary amounts get cut down to fit what is in our coffers. After that, the denial letters will be sent out first, because applicants have fifteen days to appeal the verdict, and then at some point after that, we send out acceptance letters.

Ms. Ellenberg-Dukas said that getting advertising is really important for the grant recipients, as a wonderful performance from the last grant cycle was not at all well attended.

Applications were distributed and assigned:

1. Powers Music School; Belmont Open Sings—Ken Stalberg.
2. From Jazz to hip hop—John Baboian.
3. Davis Bates, storyteller--Halloween Harvest: Ghosts, Goblins and More--Anne Levy.
4. Steve Henderson- one act play "Mabel and Jerry"--Anne Quirk.
5. Henry the Juggler--Denied because of lack of local partner.
6. Wellington PTO Presentation on Alaska--Children's author-Rebecca Richards.
7. Belmont Woman's Club--Homer's Women--women in paintings. Laurie Gianotti.
8. Marguerite Levin—"reeds"--clarinetist and friends—Sarah Ellison.
9. Salvatore Arno concert—Jirair Hovsepien.
10. Arsenal Center—Annette Goodro.
11. Two to Tango— Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas.
12. New works, A DerMarderosian— Rebecca Richards.
13. Burbank PTA--Multicultural Fair--Drum and dance ensemble—Jirair Hovsepien.
14. True Story Theater—"what's age got to do with it?" Anne Levy.
15. Printmaking—Annette Goodro.
16. John Root. Anne Quirk.
17. Belmont World Film--Sarah- Ellison.
18. Sharing New Song--Chorus Concert—Laurie Gianotti.

Mr. Hovsepien noted that it would be nice if the BCC could encourage the Belmont Theater, which shows the offerings from Belmont World Film. He wondered if the BCC could sponsor something there. Ms. Ellenberg-Dukas, who knows the owner, said she would talk to him.

Anne Quirk agreed to send the checklist from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. All were encouraged to make their future presentations as complete as possible.

It was noted that we would figure out the next two meetings via Doodlepoll, and that the way to post minutes was to send them to webpost@town.belmont.ma.us

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Ellison