

BELMONT CULTURAL COUNCIL MEETING

10/26/2017, Town Hall, Room 1: MEETING STARTED AT: 7:04pm

2017 NOV 17 AM 9:04

ATTENDING: JULIET JENKINS (chair), JENNIFER ANGEL, JOHN BABOIAN, SARAH FREIBERG ELLISON (secretary), LAURIE GIANOTTI, ANNETTE GOODRO (treasurer), NANCY LINDE, NORAH PIEHL, REBECCA RICHARDS

ABSENT: ARLYN ROFFMAN

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING:

Accepted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Post Office Box has officially been closed, as all grant activity is now on line.

REVIEW OF GRANT GUIDELINES:

There are some changes this year, so check the program guidelines, and the webinar, if you haven't already. Capital expenditure has been lifted. The MCC sample scoresheet was handed out, and reminders given about the local cultural council reimbursement form available on the MCC site, as well as the fact that we need to send new applicants W-9 forms. Grantees have a year from when they get the award letter to complete the grant—or they must ask for an extension, if not completed by then.

We will need to do a new community survey in the spring—Juliet will send the old one to us all so that we can discuss the new survey at our January meeting.

Sarah will not be at the November meeting, and Laurie will fill in as Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Three prior fiscal grants need reviewing. 1. The Delvena Theater Company has not requested its \$500 grant money—but Nancy points out that the performance took place just last week—so it will surely come in soon. 2. Hidden Poetry (\$650) was supposed to take place last spring, and has, apparently, taken place this fall instead. However, BCC members have not been able to find any proof of it. 3. Council on Aging grant of an evening with Charles Bahne in the spring at the Beech Street Center happened on a terrible weather day, so very few people came. The Cambridge Center for

Adult Education lowered the cost—so \$100 was returned. The Council on Aging would like to reallocate the funds for an educational lecture in December of 2017. Discussion ensued as to whether the BCC should take the \$100 back to reallocate or let the CoA use it as they requested. We decided that the CoA can use the \$100, but that we must make clear that this is a one-time event, and that reallocation is normally decided by the BCC, not the grantees.

Our total grant allocation from the state is \$5000. We can take up to 5% (\$250) for administrative costs. Juliet and Annette suggest we take \$153.09 for administrative funds this year. All voted in favor. Due to a couple of grants not happening, what wasn't used in previous administrative expenses and interest earned, we have \$5450 to allocate this year, as well as \$452.22 in the account that can be used for administrative costs. Some of the \$452.22 could be added to the allocation, but that would mean changing the annual report that was filed October 15th.

Laurie has suggested a council originated grant to make a town-wide web calendar (ArtsBelmont.com). She would request \$750 from the BCC, and a like amount would need to be raised by donations. Laurie would like to ask for corporate sponsorship, as well as asking former and current BCC members to donate. We could use some of the \$452.22 towards maintaining the website in the future, if we choose to fund the project. Laurie has spoken with one website developer—asked if we had other suggestions for other bids—whether through schools or elsewhere. Laurie would be running the website for the first couple of years. After that, we would need something like council associates to help run the site, and mail monthly e-blasts.

Discussion ensued: Rebecca noted that Arts Belmont was the name of a group she had been in some years ago, and was a little taken aback when she saw the name.

John worried about taking \$750 out of the allotment for this, but Juliet pointed out that we haven't done a council initiated grant for years—and this would reach and impact every artist in town—and might foster community.

Rebecca suggested asking interested arts groups for donations to help see it come to fruition. Norah mentioned that groups would have to be excited in doing this and adding to data entry. Jenny wondered if Facebook would have a template we could use. While this would be a calendar, we could certainly have a BCC page on it—as Juliet pointed out that we don't have a website. Juliet pointed out that Laurie should get letters of support from such places as the media center, and we will consider the proposal along

with the other grants.

REVIEW OF INDIVIDUAL GRANT REQUESTS:

There will soon be a panel book from the MCC—a PDF, where everything is all together, which will be easier to read. Unfortunately, to be considered, a grant proposal cannot be in draft form—it has to have been sent by the deadline. Belmont World Film cannot be considered this year for that reason. Of the 26 grant applications, almost all had local partners—which is one of our BCC criteria.

Grants were parceled out to BCC members as follows:

1. Laurie (Creative Equals Project)
2. Arlyn (Hansel and Gretel)
3. John (Powers Musical Story Telling)
4. Nancy (Armenian Senior Dance)
5. Nancy (Interactive Violin Recital)
6. Rebecca (Christine Chang Art Demonstration)
7. Norah (Classic Rep. Co.)
8. Rebecca (Kumihimo beading)
9. Jenny (Butterflies of the World—Root)
10. Sarah (Payson Park Music Festival)
11. Nancy (Goopi Gayine/Bagha Bayine)
12. Norah (Jambo Africa)
13. Rebecca (SETU)
14. Norah (Improv Workshop)
15. Sarah (Arlington Belmont Chamber Chorus)
16. Annette (Habitat, Birds and the Bees...)
17. Jenny (Bugology)
18. Nancy (Musical Baseball)
19. Nancy (Intergenerational Nature Workshop)
20. Arlyn (Mike Block)
21. Annette (Belmont Farmers' Market Programs)
22. John (Belmont Porchfest)
23. Laurie (Women in History)
24. Annette (In the Eyes of Another)
25. Laurie (Tic-Tac-Toe)

Everyone will make initial contacts with their assigned applicants by the next meeting. We should all have looked at all the grants by then as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Facebook page thoughts—Jenny, Sarah and Juliet can post things—and we want to make sure all members can help them publicize the BCC grantees—both before and after the events occur. Publicity materials from grantees, and anything else about the funded groups—including pictures from the events—should be on the Facebook page. BCC members encouraged to Share with their friends—invite them all to like the BCC page. If we choose the ArtsBelmont website—we will have to connect it to the Facebook page. John suggested a database as well of Belmont artists.

Juliet reminded us that Annette and Laurie will be leaving the BCC after this year, and that Nancy will take over as treasurer. We should actively be looking for new members.

The meeting ended with a showing of the Belmont Woman's Club's fabulous movie on Winslow Homer's Belmont—which we helped fund. We all loved it.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Freiberg Ellison