

Belmont Cultural Council November 21, 2005
Location: Conference Room One, Town Hall

Present: Viva Fisher, Rebecca Richards, Patty Mihelich, Carlha Vickers,
Susan Smart, Juliet Jenkins, Louise Ambler, Dietlinde Hamburger, Marc
Thibeault
Absent: Oz Barron

The meeting was convened at 7:30pm. New members Louise Ambler and Marc Thibeault were welcomed to the council.

As the only member of both the BCC and the BGA, Viva stated that the BGA needed more support from members of the BCC, explained the connection with the BCC and invited those interested to come to the next BGA meeting on Dec. 1, 2005.

Available funds for distribution were set at \$3474, which represents the FY2006 allocation of \$ 3630 minus the previously approved 5% set aside for administration of \$181 and \$275 awarded by the MCC for the BCC local council originated grant for strategic planning (FY2006 grant #4).

Then, the BCC moved on to discuss the pending applications, beginning with Jane Sherwin's farm-project (FY2006 grant #15), which Carlha introduced with a strong recommendation for funding; Carlha mentioned that this project might have "gold star potential" and described two other projects (Vineyard Voices from Martha's Vineyard and a project on maritime life from Chatham), which had won this award in the past. After some debate the BCC voted to fund this application at \$500 with the following conditions: Jane Sherwin must deliver two public presentations in Belmont (one during school hours and one to the general public, which could be recorded for cable TV) and the equipment, CDs and any transcripts should be kept at the Historical Society after the completion of the project. Juliet will be the BCC liaison for this grant.

Regarding the performance of the New Rep of "The Glass Menagerie" at Chenery Middle School (FY2006 grant #22), it was decided to fund the full amount of \$250, after it had been ascertained from Sara Ewing of the MCC that the funding period allowed for this within the given time frame. Rebecca will be BCC liaison for this grant.

The BCC voted to fund the application from Winn Brook School for a presentation by educators from the Paul Revere House (FY2006 grant #7) at \$300 of the \$500 requested. Dietlinde will be BCC liaison for this grant.

The BCC voted to fund the Wellington School program "Rainforest Legends" (FY2006 grant #19) at \$225 of \$425 requested. Dietlinde will be BCC liaison for this grant.

The application by the Belmont Day School for the children's international festival (FY2006 grant #17) was voted to fund at \$300 of the \$500 requested, citing publicity value and benefit to the community. Viva will be BCC liaison for this grant.

The BCC voted to fund the Belmont World Film program, Workshops on Animation and Documentary Film Making for Students at \$274 conditional upon a public (not invitational) screening as a component of the BWF Family Film Weekend planned for April 2006. Patty is BCC liaison for this grant.

Rebecca, citing the BCC's founding of and oversight for the BGA, made a strong case to support applications from two artists, Nancy Wagner (FY2006 grant 8) and Jane Wentzell (FY2006 grant #18), to defray costs of framing. Against some concerns about setting a precedent for future artists and the BCC's inability to maintain support at the same level, the BCC voted in favor of funding each application with \$475 towards the \$1000 requested. Rebecca will be BCC liaison for both of these grants.

Susan presented two applications by the Council on Aging recommending partial funding for both. The council members agreed to fund Steve Henderson's Jerry Atrick (FY2006 grant #3) at \$200 towards the \$400 asked and John Root's concert (FY2006 grant #6) \$175 towards the \$350 asked. Susan will be BCC liaison for both of these grants.

During the deliberations Patty made the calculations making sure the council stayed within our allocated funds and Juliet kept track of the distribution between the beneficiaries, which turned out to be roughly even: 1/3 going to seniors, 1/3 benefiting the schools and 1/3 artists etc.

After a final checking of all the applications the council voted to accept this year's decisions and to approve the minutes of the meeting of Nov. 3, 2005.

Viva announced that Carlha would be resigning from the BCC after serving most generously and capably as Treasurer and thanked her for her good work. Carlha has kindly agreed to train her successor. A member of the BCC will need to assume this position.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm.
Respectfully submitted:

Dietlinde Hamburger