

Belmont Cultural Council
November 21, 2011 minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:35

Present: Sarah Freiberg Ellison (chair), Sara Bruya, Jirair Hovsepian, Anne Levy, Anne Quirk, Rebecca Richards, Christine Sandvik, Ken Stalberg

Absent: Alessandra Cooper, Ilyse Robbins Mohr

The meeting began with Ken's brief recap of the BCC's financial situation: \$3676.50 of the FY2012 state allocation is available and we have \$1139 of unencumbered funds in our town account. After some discussion, the committee voted unanimously to use \$323.50 from our town account this year, bringing the FY2012 funding total to \$4000.

Committee members who were absent last week spoke about their projects.

6 Richard Clark, Mark Twain performance

Anne Levy reiterated her enthusiasm for this proposal.

8 John Root, Edible Flowers lecture

Despite her support of the program in general, Sara Bruya expressed some reservations about whether its Beech Street Center location might limit the audience to the elderly. The whole committee discussed the need to prioritize programs for the Beech Street Center, given the venue's disproportionate share of proposed FY2012 events.

9 Butler School, Kite Building

Anne Levy reiterated her enthusiasm for this proposal.

10 Powers Music School

Ken Stalberg reiterated his great enthusiasm for the Powers School in general and this program in particular.

11 Belmont Historical Society, Brigade Band

Christine Sandvik reported the application has been withdrawn.

18 Denise Doucette, Musical Program

Rebecca Richards expressed enthusiasm for this intergenerational program at the Beech Street Center, but the committee, as with #8, discussed its strength relative to the other proposals for the venue.

19 Marble Collection, Mentoring Program

Ken Stalberg expressed great enthusiasm for this publication, which publishes the creative writing of high school students, but the committee expressed strong reservation about funding it for a third cycle. Belmont Hill School, which has been receiving copies of the publication, has twice now been confused in the grant proposal with Belmont High School, which does not.

The committee then voted on the outstanding FY2012 proposals, with funding as follows. All votes were unanimous.

1 Yetti Frenkel, Creating Writing program at Belmont Public Library

Approved \$500 (partial funding: \$1000 requested)

2 Kate Carney, Paul Revere's Mother in Law performance at Beech Street Center

Approved \$250 (partial funding: \$300 requested)

5 Kathleen Fahey, Juliette Low performance

Denied (\$300 requested)

6 Richard Clark, Mark Twain performance

Approved \$300 (partial funding: \$375 requested)

8 John Root, Edible Flowers lecture

Denied (\$450 requested)

9 Butler School, Kite Building

Approved \$500 (full funding)

10 Powers Music School

Approved \$400 (partial funding: \$450 requested)

11 Belmont Historical Society, Brigade Band

Withdrawn

14 Wellington PTO, Owl Lady

Approved \$350 (partial funding: \$400 requested)

15 Chenery School, Ball in the House

Approved \$450 (partial funding: \$486 requested)

18 Denise Doucette, Musical Program

Denied (\$275 requested)

19 Marble Collection, Mentoring Program

Denied (\$150 requested)

20 Chenery PTO, Odaiko New England

Approved \$450 (partial funding: \$1100 requested)

21 Belmont High, Costumes for Beauty and the Beast

Approved \$500 (partial funding: \$700 requested)

22 Belmont World Film, Afghan documentaries

Approved \$300 (partial funding: \$400 requested)

23 REES Foundation, Film

Denied (\$150 requested)

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing other two other matters:

A joint meeting of the Belmont Gallery of Art board and the BCC will be held in early 2012, after a new volunteer director is selected for the gallery.

No replacement for irreplaceable Sarah Ellison as BCC chair has been chosen, but, serving either individually or in some combination, Ken Stalberg, Sara Bruya, or Anne Quirk are the likeliest suspects.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Minutes submitted by Anne Quirk, Secretary