

Belmont Cultural Council Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2002 Meeting
Belmont Public Library

In Attendance: Nan Rogers, Rebecca Richards, Neely McNulty, Patty Mihelich, Phil Hughes, Viva Fisher, Harriet Barnett, and Jennifer Smith
Absent: Carlha Vickers and Barbara Owens

- 1) Council voted to approve minutes from Sept 10. Motion to approve by Jennifer Smith. 2nd motion by Phil Hughes. Council voted to approve amended minutes of Oct 23. Motion to approve by Harriet Barnett. 2nd motion by Jennifer Smith.
- 2) Another point mentioned about the town gallery proposal: In his meeting with Jennifer and Nan, Mel Kleckner suggested that we informally notify the Selectmen of this proposal before we formally meet with them. Jennifer has met with Paul S. informally; Nan will contact Will B.; Patty will contact Anne Marie.
- 3) Council voted to approve that Neely McNulty assume role of Secretary. Motion to approve by Nan Rodgers. 2nd motion by Phil Hughes.
- 4) Meeting turned to discussion of grant proposals. Goal of tonight's meeting is to discuss some grant proposals, and of those discussed, council will determine which will remain open and which will be rejected. Patty M. had been assigned the review of the Community Through Film grant submitted by Belmont Fair Housing, but she has given the review of this grant to Trey K because of a conflict of interest. The proceeds of this project go to benefit the Belmont Affordable Shelter Fund, an organization of which she is part. Patty then presented grant 14, the World Film Series grant. Because of this program's success last year, discussion was around how much could we fund, rather than could we fund program at all. Harriet mentioned possibility of raising ticket prices as a way to offset cost of the program. Rebecca told the group that Belmont World Film is planning to raise ticket prices from \$3 to \$5 (except animation film which will offer tickets at \$3). Grant 14 remains on the active list.
- 5) Nan gave council members a point system grid that we could use when evaluating proposals. Her system is based on grant guidelines from the application. Goal of system is to provide tool for increasing objectivity of evaluation process. Point system to be used in conjunction with discussion, not in lieu of it.
- 6) Jennifer presented grant 12, the Meet the Author grant. This well organized and articulate proposal remains open. Jennifer then presented grant 09, Sparks of Story, Song, and Music. This generic grant does not meet the Council's requirement that the grant applicant have sponsorship by a Belmont institution or individual. This grant will not be funded by the Belmont Cultural Council.
- 7) Harriet presented grant 05, the Boston Dance Collective project. This project would offer 230 students at the Butler School the opportunity to see a modern dance program which is programming that is not a part of their regular curriculum. Harriet made a pointed comment that the project itself is interesting and unique, but the grant application is perfunctory and even borrows language from other sources. Group discussion turned to how can we better support

applicants (specifically from town schools) so that they submit well written applications. Nan mentioned possibility of grant writing workshops for applicants. Grant 05 remains on the active list.

- 8) Viva presented grant 07, the Intergenerational Art Projects program. Council discussed whether it is possible to bring cost of this down by encouraging program leaders to seek money from other sources. Program looks very interesting but does not serve that many Belmont residents (probably between 30-40). Grant 07 remains open. Viva presented grant 03, the GBYSO annual concert program. Council has funded this program numerous times in the past. There are some questions about budget details in the application and to what other towns GYPSO had applied. Phil is planning to look at GYPSO's FY'02 application. This grant will not be funded by the Belmont Cultural Council.

Minutes submitted by Neely Holt McNulty
November 6, 2002