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Belmont Cultural Council
September 26, 2013 minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:45

Present: Anne Quirk (co-chair), Ken Stalberg (co-chair) John Baboian, Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas , Jirair Hovsepien, Rebecca Richards, Christine Sandvik

Absent: Anne Levy

Co-chair Ken Stalberg opened the meeting with an introduction of the new committee members, John Baboian and Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas, and an overview of the granting process and procedures.

Co-chair Anne Quirk reviewed the minutes from the BCC's last meeting, December 3, 2012, and discussed a June 2013 meeting with the Belmont Gallery of Art (BGA). The BGA is acting as an autonomous sub-committee with its own procedures that will continue to provide yearly report to the BCC about the shows, budget, and functions.

Christine Sandvik, who serves on both the BGA and BCC boards, reported the BGA is in the process of looking for a new gallery administrator. She also said that the committee decided to decline its 2013 BCC grant. This decision was made because of the concern that it was not appropriate for a sub-committee of the BCC to receive BCC grants.

Anne Quirk suggested that the BCC co-sponsor the next BGA reception, which will be held at the Homer mansion on November 19, 2013, and invite past BCC grantees and current applicants. Christine and Rebecca, however, explained that this would defuse the focus of the event. Anne expressed great interest in a future joint event, ideally early in 2014

The minutes from the last meeting were unanimously approved by the committee.

In his treasurer's report, Ken Stalberg reported that, according to Frank Martin, Belmont Assistant Town Accountant, the BCC has \$3870 in its town account. Much of these funds are encumbered, but an exact figure for unencumbered funds will soon be easy to calculate. In a fund raising effort, the BCC sent out letter to 25 former BCC committee members in late August and has received four contributions to date, around \$400.

The BCC's state allocation for 2014 is \$4250.

Anne Quirk reported that publicity letters about the BCC grants, and the October 15 deadline, have been sent to various sources, including the Citizen Herald, Belmont Patch, and PTOs. She and Anne Levy further promoted the BCC at Meet Belmont in late August.

The committee decided to invite 2014 grant applicants to briefly make the case for their proposals at an upcoming BCC meeting. Attendance would be optional and presenters would not be given preference for funding. Logistics will be worked out during a future meeting.

The date of the next meeting will be determined via email so that all members can check their calendars.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

Minutes submitted by Christine Sandvik, Secretary