

Harwich Cultural Council- Minutes, September 14, 2023- Held at The 204, Sisson Rd.

Present: Bernadette Waystack- Chair, Chris Banks- Treasurer, Dinah Lane- Clerk, Vicki Goldsmith, Jackie Leach- members, and Kara Mewhinney, Dir. of Cultural Affairs.

Absent:, Sharon Moore- Grants Coordinator, Pam North, Nina Schuessler

Call to Order- 4:01 PM

Public Comment and Announcements- none

Dir. of Cultural Affairs- Kara M reported on summer activities. Concert series at Brooks Park successful. Planning next year for 8 weeks. Cultural District Investment grant of \$15k for each Cultural District will provide more support for Harwich Port. Hoping for a transportation service from Town Hall and The 204 to Port Nights. The Art Shacks at Saquatucket Harbor are challenging. Not a prime location and many cancellations by artists. Planning to reduce fees and days next year. Perhaps return to John Rendon, the Harbormaster. Possibly start shacks on HCC property to draw people to the Cultural Center. Kara has been talking to schools about cultural activity partnerships. Planning workshop with the CDP on “Boosting Your Creative Energy” on Sept 28. On Oct. 4 the Arts Foundation will host a Creative Exchange to discuss Public Art approach with the state. Long range hopes include a mural on the building and sculpture garden. The Cultural Facilities Fund application is due in December. Also seeking funding from the CPC. Hope to complete upgrades to the facility by spring with an RFP out for the kitchen by winter. Oct. 7- Open House. Dec. 2- Holiday week and Open House. Hoping to collaborate with the Cultural Council. Further goals are enhancing the Districts, messaging and branding.

Chair’s Report- Bernadette reported there will be Open Meeting law workshops on 9/28 from 2-4 and 5-7PM. She will be reporting at the Select Board meeting about the LCC applications due October 15. The priorities and dates are up on the website. There is confusion at the administrative level about the length of terms for the current HCC members. She will discuss with Mary Anderson next week as the list needs to be updated. Next month the Council will consider and vote on officer positions.

Minutes of May 11, 2023 approved.

Treasurer’s Report- Chris Banks reported:

Grant Acct. # 1501- \$16,821.95

Gift Acct #1730- \$2990.57

Grants paid out from May - Sept. 2023

#1-6/26/23 HJT Creative Movement on the Move \$500.

#10- 8/1023 Beyond the Bounds, Inc. \$200

#15- 8/8/23 Puppets, Paul & Mary Show \$500

#18- 6/14/23 Outer Cape Coral, Inc \$600

#19- 5/24/23 CC Chamber Orchestra, Inc \$500.

Monomoy Regional Middle School Seashore Stewards CC Ecosystems Art Experience submitted for \$250 of their \$450 request, however they only submitted an invoice, no W-9 nor information of the program in progress.

I phoned 8/8/23 Catherine Kane and she said she would get back to me.

I feel now that school is in session it's possible they would have completed their full grant and will submit it then.

*Chris Banks
Treasurer*

RE: Grant #1- Dinah reported having attended a performance of Movimento at the HJT. Very impressive and moving.

Old Business:

Grants Reception Review- All agreed that event was successful.

New Business:

Dates of next meetings- review.

Oct. 12 meeting Chris and Jackie will be absent. Pam North will share what information she has from the library on Youth Reps.

Nov. 9 meeting to discuss grant applications. Council members can begin reviewing and making notes on grant apps anytime before that.

There is an assessment tool for grant applications on the MCC website.

Meeting Adjourned – 5:03 PM