

Mid Cape Cultural Council

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 7:00

Growth Management Conference Room, 3rd Floor

Meeting Minutes

Present: Barbara Adams, Georgia Kreth, Marilyn Heberling, Becky Lawrence, Jeanmarie O'Clair, Rachel Youngling. Town Council Liaison: Jessica Rapp Grassetti

Absent: Marlene Weir, Elise McMullin, Joel Chaison, Beth Higgins, Suzanne Finney

Invited Guest: Julie Wake, Executive Director, Arts Foundation of Cape Cod (AFCC)

Meeting Called to Order, Introductions

Co-Chair Becky Lawrence called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Jeanmarie O'Clair took minutes since Secretary Elise McMullin was unable to attend the meeting. A final version of the December minutes was not available, so approval was tabled. Members introduced themselves to invited guest Julie Wake.

A Conversation with Julie Wake, Executive Director, Arts Foundation of Cape Cod

Members and Julie Wake explored possibilities for collaboration between local cultural councils and the AFCC. Julie noted that we share similar missions and both of us offer grants for arts and cultural projects so there are many opportunities to work together. Becky noted that collectively the 14 local cultural councils on Cape Cod award \$58,300 which is comparable to the AFCC's \$50,000 in grants.

The group discussed their approaches and capacity for reviewing and awarding grants. Julie announced that AFCC wants to double the amount for granting to \$100,000. They are also reviewing grant criteria and administration. They may consolidate 2 grant deadlines into one, as the local cultural councils currently have. She highlighted other activities AFCC does to promote and support the arts, namely an annual artist fellowship, scholarships, and an annual winter art exhibition.

The group continued to discuss grant-making issues and best practices including grantee receptions, publicizing grant opportunities, developing and communicating funding criteria, review procedures such as declaring conflicts of interest, and related matters. Becky offered to help AFCC with developing grant criteria if that would be helpful.

One area of agreement between local cultural councils and AFCC is that we both want to serve the year-round population of Cape Cod. We agree on the importance of tourism for the region, but think that strengthening local, authentic cultural life should be the highest priority. Tourism will follow, since just as people want to know "where do the locals eat?" they will want to experience the cultural activities that local populations are engaged in, as well.

Julie shared other news about AFCC. They will be moving from their current offices to downtown Hyannis in the Bank of Cape Cod building. They have a completely new staff. Applications for a

fellowship in performing arts are due in April. They are contributing to a new survey on the Cape's creative economy that is being spearheaded by Paul Niedzwiecki, Executive Director of the Cape Cod Commission. The last survey was done in 2005. They are planning a Cape-wide Creative Collaborative gathering modeled after Philanthropy Day. There will be workshops, awards, keynote speaker, luncheon, exhibitors, etc. Becky asked that a track for local cultural councils be included. Julie asked if anyone was interested in serving on planning committee. Jeanmarie volunteered.

Becky shared MCCC's public art project news and Julie agreed to help promote the "call to artists". Becky thanked Julie for coming to our meeting and working with us to identify ways we can collaborate.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rachel Youngling distributed an updated report. One FY15 grant for \$250 will not be utilized so that amount will go back into the pot. That leaves 4 remaining FY15 grants, amounting to \$2550 to be reimbursed. Rachel has given them until Jan. 31st to get the required paperwork submitted or to ask for an extension. The only administrative expense incurred so far in FY16 is \$31.10 for grant review folders. We have about \$800 left for funding operations, including the upcoming grantee reception. Rachel will look into ordering nametags. No one offered to take on the business card task. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Grantee Reception Report

Committee co-chairs Marilyn Heberling and Georgia Kreth distributed a work plan. The event will take place on June 1, 2016, 5-7 PM, in the new education wing of the Cultural Center of Cape Cod.

Agreed upon responsibilities: Georgia, Marilyn and Jeanmarie will visit CCCC and work out site plan; Georgia and Marilyn are in charge of invitations, program; Rachel will emcee; Marilyn will coordinate the performance segment; Becky will oversee displays; Marlene will provide floral centerpiece; Beth will be in charge of photography; Barbara and Suzanne will coordinate refreshments; Joel will invite a welcome musical group. Elise will provide support where needed.

Adjournment and Dates for Your Calendar

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

The statewide assembly is scheduled for Feb. 10th, Wednesday. Register by Jan. 27th

The next meeting is scheduled for the second Wednesday of the month: March 9, 2015, 7 PM

Note: Members involved in the council's public art project stayed to discuss ideas on siting artworks and themes for the art discovery trail. This discussion will continue with input from the site advisory committee that will meet on January 20th at 1 PM. Ideas will be incorporated into a Request for Qualifications Call to Artists. Draft will be sent out prior to distribution for comment.