

## Amherst Cultural Council

Minutes of the meeting held Thursday, August 8, 2019, 4:30 p.m. Jones Library

Attendees: Gigi Barnhill, Jenny Lind, Andrea Battle, Gina Chaplain, Sondra Radosh, Cyndi Harbeson

Absent: Martha Toro, Robin Thompson

Erika Mijlin, a new Amherst resident with interests in various art forms, also attended. We encouraged her to apply to become a member of the ACC.

### Agenda:

Organization for the coming year--chairs, treasurer, and secretary

New members

Date for public meeting in September

Changes to our guidelines -- available at [mass-culture.org](http://mass-culture.org)

Reminders about meetings--

Open meeting law

Conflict of interest

Any other business that might come before the Council.

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

1. Jenny Lind and Gigi Barnhill will continue as co-chairs. Martha Toro did not respond about continuing as secretary. Andrea Battle may be moving out of town. Gigi will inform the town manager when the move occurs. When Honoré David moved to South Hadley, she did continue as co-chair for at least two years. Andrea's first term expired in 2018, as did Gigi's. We have yet to be reappointed.
2. The Town Manager's office scheduled interviews for candidates to the ACC in July, but candidates failed to respond to the interview requests. Therefore, we have no new members at this time.
3. The date for the public meeting is Thursday, September 12, at the Jones Library, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. There will be no formal meeting. Gigi and Jenny will be on hand; other members are welcome to come and chat with any interested parties. Gigi will contact Phyllis Lehrer and Scott Merzbach. Cyndi will post an announcement on our website.
4. We decided to make no changes to our local guidelines.
5. Gigi reminded Council members to review the Massachusetts Cultural Council guidelines, the open meeting law, and conflict of statement policy.

6. In Robin Thompson's absence, Gigi spoke briefly about the activities of the steering committee of the Amherst Center Cultural District. There will be another celebration of the arts in the fall.

7. Applications to the ACC will be due on October 15 and the panel books will be available to us around November 5. Meetings for the following dates have been scheduled: November 12, 14, 19, 21, December 3 and 5. All will be held at the Jones Library, from 4 to 6 p.m.

8. Jenny described a meeting that she and Gigi attended with State Representative Mindy Domb. As former executive director of the Amherst Survival Center, she was well acquainted with MCC and ACC funding and is happy to support the MCC in votes. She is willing to help the ACC promoted cultural activities funded by the ACC. She has interns who could help with such projects. Jenny also spoke about hiring a UMass intern to support public media activities.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gigi Barnhill, co-chair