

Amherst Cultural Council
APPROVED Minutes
Wednesday, October 24, 2012
Amherst Room, Jones Library

Meeting called to order by: Ellen Kosmer, Co-Chair at 3:45pm

Attendance:

Present: Ellen Kosmer, Co-Chair, Honoré David, Co-chair, Ruth Rootberg, Secretary, Jim Scott, Treasurer, Sandra Mullin, Rachel Mustin, Joan Temkin, & Sondra Radosh, liaison.

Absent :

Arnold Friedmann and Gretchen Fox.

Ellen passed out bags with the applications and the current Annual Report showing the FY2013 applications with their assigned identifying numbers. Any number with an “x” means the applicant did not originally provide 10 copies. These applicants were given until Tuesday, October 23 to get additional copies in - **two of the ten made** copies, which were distributed to members present. The other eight proposals will not be considered.

Minutes:

The minutes of July 2, **taken by Sandra Mullin in Ruth’s absence**, were approved as corrected. There needs to be inclusion that the minutes of April 12 were approved at the meeting. Ruth thanked Sandra for doing the minutes as a last-minute substitute.

Grant modification request:

FY2012-47 Performance Alive

The recipients have requested diverting the entire grant for payment to the artist, Lenelle Moise. There have been changes in the curriculum. The artist comes this Friday, October 26.

It’s acceptable for us to make this grant modification and is still in the same spirit of the original request.

It was moved and seconded to accept the request. PASSED unanimously.

Calendar of meetings:

Although dates were set last spring, the co-chairs personal schedules prevented attendance at several of those dates. There was a recent attempt to reschedule via doodle.com, but not everyone responded. The council members present managed to find several times when they could guarantee a quorum. It is hoped the members who were not in attendance to verify their availability will be able to make most or all

of the meetings. (Please let the co-chairs know in advance; a quorum of 5 people is always needed for business to be transacted.)

Consider all meeting times scheduled in the April 12 minutes null and void. Following are the meeting dates and times. We shall assume the place will be somewhere in the Jones library; Sondra Rodosh will be reserving space:

#1: Monday, October 29 from 3-5pm, Amherst Room. Ruth will arrive approx: 4:15. Sandra Mullin will take minutes until Ruth arrives. Rachel will also arrive late.

#2 Thursday, November 8 from 4:30 - 6:30 pm.

#3 Tuesday, November 13 from 4:15 - 6:15 pm.

#4 Monday, November 19 from 3-5 pm. Ruth will arrive late.

5 Tuesday, November 20 from 4:45 - 6:45 pm.

#6 Wednesday, November 28 from 3-5 pm.

If more meetings are needed, we will schedule them at a later time.

There are 82 applications, but we will only consider the 75 of which we received 10 copies. (Last year we considered 67).

New business:

We received a sample score sheet for evaluating grants. Members are invited to **evaluate as they wish - point system, notes, etc.**

As we evaluate grants for field trip grants (formerly PASS grants), remember we changed our local guidelines. One change was the request to indicate how the program integrates into classroom curriculum. Be sure you take that into account as you read applications.

Seasoned members discussed the process of evaluating and decision-making for our new member, Rachel Mustin.

We were reminded by the Boston office that **it's OK to deny funding** even though an applicant has fulfilled all the requirements. We can evaluate on the impact a proposal has on the community, or any other criteria of our choosing.

The state has awarded us \$18,250 to grant. We may consider drawing some from our interest bearing account at a later meeting.

Jim Scott gave us an oral report of the various accounts held by the Town on our behalf. The members approved the report.

New Business:

Sondra Rodosh reported the new director of the library would like us to find storage off of library property. It is possible that the old files can be reduced; only the last five years need to be held. Currently our files are in a filing cabinet and boxes in the Crafts Room.

Honoré has volunteered to look through the material, and Jim Scott will speak with the Town Clerk to find out what alternative public space is suitable for storage, and how the files can be moved. The director of the library would like this to happen as soon as possible.

Sandra Mullin has volunteered to look through the Field Trip Grant applications to verify they have sufficient information; the new local guidelines, if adhered to, should provide what we need to make decisions.

Miscellaneous:

The co-chairs, Ellen and Honoré **request that all e-mail correspondence be** addressed to both of them at all times. They in turn will copy each other.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Rootberg, Secretary
Amherst Cultural Council