

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:32 pm by Bill Burton, Chair

Other council members present: Albert Carey, Craig Combs, Paul Arthur Kelley, Hilary McHugh, Cherie Mittenthal

The meeting was held in person in the Caucus Room of Town Hall in Provincetown.

Public comments were requested. No members of the public were in attendance.

Minutes

The minutes from the August 27th, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Albert Carey motioned to accept the minutes as presented and Hilary McHugh seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Review of Open Meeting Law complaint by Patrick Higgins, dated December 14, 2021

Patrick Higgins' filed a complaint against the Provincetown Cultural Council alleging that the council failed to publicly list all the applicants in the Meeting Agenda prior to the December 13, 2021 meeting. Bill Burton, Chair, explained that in fact, Higgins was correct. Since receiving the complaint, Bill had spent some time with staff in Town hall to learn exactly what information is required by law.

Bill asked the council to acknowledge the receipt of the complaint. The council affirmed receipt of the complaint by unanimous vote.

Bill then shared a draft version of the recommended response of Provincetown's legal team, KP Law. The document outlines the complaint and states that the Council agreed with the complaint with the caveat that "at the time the meeting notice was posted, the Council, in good faith, believed the items listed to be reasonably sufficient to inform the public that it would be discussing grant applications submitted for 2021 and matters related thereto."

The document further advised that the Council take immediate remedial action by adding an agenda item for today's meeting to further discuss and ratify its actions at the December 13, 2021 meeting regarding 2021 grant applications and to provide a public detailed list of the grant applicants and projects being considered.

After some discussion, Bill asked for a vote to approve the lawyer's letter and actions therein. The vote to approve the letter and the actions therein was unanimous.

Further Discussion of 2021 Applicants for Cultural Council Funding

The Meeting Agenda for this meeting, January 6, 2022, included a full list of applicants, their project names and the requested amounts. The Council reviewed and discussed their decisions on which applicants were approved, the awarded amount and those that were denied motion to approve.

The 26 applicants discussed during the grant distribution decision process are as follows:

1. Alzheimer’s Family Caregivers Support Center
2. Beyond the Bounds
3. Cape Cod Chamber Music Festival
4. Cape Cod Museum Trail
5. Del Deo Romolo
6. Fine Arts Work Center
7. Friends of the Provincetown Public Library
8. Great Music On Sundays @ 5
9. Timothy Kane
10. Alex Leff
11. Lower Cape Community Television
12. Pamela Means
13. Marilyn Morales
14. Outer Cape Chorale
15. Payoment, Inc.
16. John Porcino
17. Provincetown Art Association and Museum
18. Provincetown Commons
19. Provincetown International Baccalaureate Public School
20. Provincetown Public Art Foundation
21. Provincetown Schools
22. Sustainable Center for Agricultural Preservation and Education
23. The Cultural Center of Cape Cod
24. The Provincetown Theater Foundation
25. Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill
26. Matt York

After Council discussion and a review of the project proposals, the following is a list of the 2022 Grant Recipients, a brief description of the program and the amount awarded.

Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Inc Free Winter Community Event Series	\$400
Friends of the Provincetown Public Library, Inc. Winter Ptown Book Festival	\$400
Great Music on Sundays @5 Concert Series	\$400

Pamela Means Presents The Power of the Protest Song: \$450
Our Shared History & Present Day Struggles

Outer Cape Chorale, Inc \$400
Concert Series

Payomet, Inc. - Open Arts \$400
Circus arts combines fun, arts learning, fitness, stressing the value of teamwork

PAAM - Ptown Schools Workshop Series \$500
An enrichment program in visual arts education. First Tuesday of each month

Provincetown International Baccalaureate Public Schools \$500
Diversity Parade featuring large puppets made by the students

Provincetown Schools Community Art Club \$500
An after-school program of PK-5th grade

Farmer in the School \$250
Using art to reinforce STEAM based learning about healthy food choice

Ptown Theater Townie Show \$500
Annual community holiday concert

Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill, Inc. \$300
Making art from recycled plastics

Bill asked for a vote to confirm the above awarded applicants and amounts. The vote was unanimous.

Cherie Mittenenthal made a motion to end the meeting. Albert Carey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting ended at 5:52pm.

Respectfully submitted by Craig W. Combs