

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:33:pm by Bill Burton, Chair

Other council members present: Craig Combs, Paul Arthur Kelley, Hilary McHugh, Lesley Marchessault, Albert Carey

Absent: Cherie Mittenthal

The meeting was held 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 March 21, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Hilary McHugh motioned to accept the minutes as presented and Paul Kelley seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Election of Officers

This year is the biennial election of officers. Bill Burton shared that he was stepping down from the chair position but would remain on the council.

The council members collectively thanked Bill for his four years of service as chair. Under Bill's leadership the council was able to complete the AIDS Memorial and requested and received from the town an additional \$10K to add to the Mass Cultural Council grant money for the 2022 Fall applications process. Congratulations to Bill for an outstanding service.

The council proceeded to discuss and elect officers for the 2022-2024 term. After a short discussion, Lesley Marchessault expressed interest in the position.

Craig Combs nominated Lesley Marchessault. Bill seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Bill Burton nominated Craig Combs for the Clerk position who has been serving in this capacity for a year. Paul seconded the nomination and the motion passed unanimously.

Grant Award Process

Prior to this meeting, Lesley Marchessault and Craig Combs met to develop a scoring guide used to evaluate the grant applications process, a rubric. Lesley presented the Sample Score Sheet for Evaluating Grants taken from the Mass Cultural Council website and a Google spread sheet borrowed from the Wellfleet Cultural Council for discussion. She explained and answered questions about the score sheet and the spread sheet further leading a discussion about collective priorities that pertain specifically to Ptown:

1. Does the council wish to prioritize projects that occur during the high season or off season?
2. Does the council wish to prioritize new event concepts versus returning/long-term sustained events?
3. Is the council interested to stipulate a limit to the amount of a project budget it is willing to support?
4. What makes a satisfactory project partner for Ptown?

The discussion with all of the points above centered around the idea that our responsibility is to promote the cultural vitality of Provincetown. The council collectively decided to discuss each project on its own merits as compared to its competitors for any given year rather than create any precedent decisions about the above subjects. The consensus was that the council needed fluidity to evaluate new ideas, time of year, budget considerations and project partners without the background of established criteria.

Craig Combs motioned that the council use the Mass Cultural Council Sample Score Sheet for Evaluating Grants for the 2022 season in its current form and re-evaluate its use in Jan/Feb of 2023 with the intention of amending the form based on the experience of using it. Bill Burton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on open council seats

Paul Kelly asked how many members may the council have. Bill Burton answered up to 9 members and that we currently have 7 members leaving 2 seats open. Paul asked if we would like to pursue filling those seats. The unanimous consensus was yes, we would like to have a full council. Paul will direct a couple of people that have expressed interest to make application in Town Hall.

Lesley made a motion to end the meeting and Paul seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:18pm.

Respectfully submitted by Craig W. Combs