



WESTMINSTER CULTURAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

AUGUST 7, 2023

Members Present: Pat McAllister, Cindy Flynn, Sammi Dawley, Bette Roy, Patricia Gendron, and Nancy Swanson. Linda McClenahan attending. Guests include Jonathan Harvey, Dale Miller, Candy Hitchcock, and Audra Kirkland, Community Services.

Pat McAllister opened the meeting at 1:00.

Minutes: The minutes as presented were read. Nancy Swanson motioned to approve, seconded by Cindy Flynn. Unanimously accepted.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of a Treasurer, Linda McClenahan presented the Treasurer's Report which is attached to the minutes of this meeting. The report was presented to Julie Costello for approval before Linda reached the end of service. Cindy Flynn motioned to accept the report as presented, Nancy Swanson seconded. It was unanimously approved.

A discussion ensued about the 2023-2024 Town and state budgets which will be presented later in the year.

Introduction of Guests: Pat McAllister introduced Audra Kirkland, Candy Hitchcock, and Dale Miller.

Old Business:

Art Gallery: Nancy has artists until October. November/December is open. We accept artists from other cities/towns. Mark Girouard has asked to exhibit but has not completed the paperwork. Audra said she would talk to him.

Council on Aging: Sue Fisher had feedback from the audience. More entertainment is requested. One artist had a negative review (Dawn Kelley-Songs of Love).

Treasurer's Position: Pat McAllister and Linda McClenahan met with Jo Grant. At first, she declined the position; however, called backed and agreed to take the position.

Council Size: In June there was a discussion of the size of the council; however, it was tabled. It seemed that adding two members would make a quorum easier to attain. Cindy Flynn made a motion to increase the size of the council to nine, seconded by Nancy Swanson, and approved by all.

New Business:

Banner for the Westminster Foundation: The cost of the Banner is \$250. The council has donated the money in the past. Pat Gendron moved to donate the \$250 for a Cultural Council banner, seconded by Bette Roy, approved by all.

Update Grant Guidelines for the Council: The Guidelines were presented by Pat McAllister. Pat Gendron asked why the recommendation from the venue, sponsor, etc. was not still a condition. She gave the reason that if the audience was not pleased with the program, what would the council do? Pat Gendron made a motion that a letter of support from the venue must be part of the application process, seconded by Sammi, and approved by all. Pat McAllister asked for a discussion of when to pay the grant recipients, when the grant was accepted or after the performance with receipts? Cindy Flynn motioned to have recipients send receipts before payment, seconded by Nancy Swanson, and approved by all. The grant process opens September 1 and closes October 17. Pat Gendron will send out the letters to possible grant recipients and make the checklist.

Other: Publicity Sammi Dawley and Bette Roy will advertise on "Wonderful Westminster." Pat McAllister will talk to IT to see if we can get it onto the town's website. Pat McAllister will send directions to Mass Cultural Council website at SmartSimple to all members of the council. Sammi Dawley will see about publicizing on the local TV.

The next meeting will be November 1 at 10:00.

Bette Roy made the motion to adjourn at 2:20, seconded by Nancy Swanson, and approved by all

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Gendron
Secretary