

Montague Cultural Council

March 24, 2019 1PM

Gill-Montague Senior Center

62 5th St., Turners Falls, MA 01376

Present:

Kate Martineau, (Chair)

Anne Harding, (Treasurer)

Cindi Oldham, (Secretary)

Shannon Coakley Ramsey

John Furbish

Daniel Brandon

Not Present:

Rachel Teumin

Jen Audley

Jan Atamian

Pam Allan

Guests

Mina Kim

Lynne Rudie

1. Meeting called to order at 1:00PM
2. Chair (Kate Martineau) made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2019 meeting. The motion is carried.
3. Musica Franklin had an event- a Community Night.
Art series for teens will take place at the Montague Center library.
Collaging for fun is looking for a venue, and will keep us posted.
Mabel and Jerry is happening at the senior center in April.
Yoga for children is happening at the library, and since it's not accessible, they aren't accepting our grant.

4. The treasurer's update (Anne Harding)

Matthew Duncan has concerns about whether their event is accessible enough.

Annabelle Levine stated that she has already sent in paperwork, but has not been paid. Ann has not received said paperwork, so will investigate what might have happened to it.

Lovelights sent their paperwork, as well as Young Shakespeare players, and Egtooth productions.

Paperwork has still not been received from 8 grantees. Anne will send out reminders.

Yoga for children is happening at the library, and since it's not accessible, so they have stated that they are not accepting our grant. Since they have already received the money, they should reimburse MCC.

5. Mina Kim, spoke to the council on accessibility and council led programming. She suggested that as a council we have a very clear definition of accessibility on our applications to avoid any confusion. She agrees that Yoga for children should reimburse the Montague CC.

On council led programming, Mina gave us examples of council led programs that other towns had done to give us some ideas, such as the mural project in Greenfield, and the Food truck festival in Belchertown. She pointed out that Charles Baldwin would be willing to come and talk to our council (and maybe the public) about the meaning of accessibility. Kate is going to look into that.

Last, but not least, Mina informed us about a cultural accessibility grant that could help us upgrade some of our 19th century buildings where public events often take place.

6. Young Shakespeare Players East are being sued for discrimination. The council made the decision to fund them with the info that was available at the time. They submitted their paperwork, and the council can't deny them the funds.

7. Music Makes Good Neighbors happens at different homes, but not all venues are accessible to physically challenged people. They look for venues that are accessible, but it's not always possible. As long as they are making an effort, it's up to each individual council to decide if the program has tried their best to be accessible. The council will suggest to them that they could indicate which venues are accessible before the events happen so people can plan accordingly.

8. Nolumbeka will use the small amount of funds leftover from snow moon for another project.

9. Public Input—plans for survey:

Anne printed surveys and council members will distribute them around. Anne suggested putting them in the Reporter or at town meeting. There is also an online version, but we are unable to see the comments unless we have the paid edition.

Council member Dan moves to use discretionary funds to put the survey in the Reporter. The motion is moved.

10. Lynne Rudie offered to volunteer her time to create a unique logo specific the Montague Cultural council. She plans come back to the next council meeting with some ideas for us.

11: Next meeting will be Sunday May 19th at 1PM.

12. Topics not anticipated: Jen, Anne, Rachael and Shannon's tenure ends in June. Jen and Shannon have to take a year off. Rachael and Anne both have another term if they choose. Dan suggested reaching out to past council members, and Anne thought inviting people to join when handing out surveys might be a good way to bring in new people.

The meeting adjourned at: 2:20PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cindi Oldham (Secretary)