

### **Minutes RiverCulture Steering Committee Meeting**

Thursday, February 21, 6pm, Second Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall

Present: Suzanne LoManto, Eileen Dowd, Erin MacLean, Rachel Teumim, Pam Allan, Lucinda Kidder

- 1.) Notes by Suzanne LoManto. Meeting started at 6:01pm
- 2.) Minutes from October 23, 2018 meeting were voted and accepted. 6:05pm
- 3.) Suzanne read Hillary's letter of resignation to the group.
- 4.) Personal introductions by the group for the benefit of Lucinda Kidder, who is a prospective Board member.
- 5.) Lucinda contributed some background information about herself, her theater career, current grants she is writing, and her interest in serving as a Steering Committee member. Lucinda will write a short letter of interest for consideration by the Montague Select Board.
- 6.) Eileen did some "housekeeping" and discussed her desire to find additional steering committee members from Lake Pleasant, Millers Falls, and Montague Center. The group decided that Lucinda did, in fact, live in Montague City.
- 7.) The Steering Committee went through the draft of the FY2019 Half Year Report, as written by the Cultural Coordinator. The draft covers the RiverCulture budget, fundraising efforts, and program areas. The group requested that the final report include a breakdown of sponsor funding, grants, in-kind donations, and program income. As Chairwoman, Eileen also wanted to add her observations about the RiverCulture program before the draft is submitted to the Select Board. The group voted at 6:50pm to accept the draft with the expanded budget information and Eileen's additions.
- 8.) Suzanne introduced the concept of a "Workshop Program" for the Town of Montague. (At this point, the program does not have a title.) Suzanne lead the Steering committee through a prepared outline of the workshop program which covered the concept, goals, and steps that the cultural coordinator will take over the next 8 months. The Steering Committee asked many questions both specific to how the program will operate, and how the program might affect the town of Montague more broadly over time.

Suzanne presented ArtPrize (Michigan) as an example of a program with a similar concept: To set up a structure which facilitates connection/collaboration between cultural producers and the activity spaces that the need.

The group showed enthusiasm for the idea but recognized the amount of work that re-tooling RiverCulture in this direction will entail.