

Meeting Minutes
Weston Cultural Council
Online via Zoom
October 21, 2020
7 p.m.

WCC Members Present Online: Paul Angiolillo, Anthony Butler, Christine Martin, Jacob Sagrans, Sonali Tambe. Present via phone : Francis Parker

1. Call to order.

Co-Chair Anthony Butler called the online meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. and began recording the proceedings. He read the Town policy for online remote meetings which provides protocol for setting up these meetings and guidelines for conducting a meeting from a legal compliance perspective.

2. Resident comments.

There were no online resident comments.

3. Assigning secretary

Chris Martin was the secretary for the meeting.

4. Review and approve the minutes from September 16, 2020

The minutes from September 16, 2020 were duly reviewed, and approved without edits. They will be submitted to Town Hall and posted in the Council's Google document folder.

5. Treasurer's report

Anthony reported that there is still no indication from the state when the budget will be finalized and the Council will know what the town's allocation for 2021 grants will be. That will impact the decision making process once the Council begins the review process.

Members voted to approve the Discovery Museum's request for payment. They have essentially fulfilled the criteria made in their request for funds for EBT visitors.

Anthony also reported that Tom is working on the Annual Report which needs to be submitted on October 31.

6. Check In and Status of 2020 grants:

Anthony thanked Paul for handling the press releases for the upcoming application cycle. Paul submitted a press release to the Weston Town Crier and posted the information on the Council's Facebook page and on the town website, including contact information for follow-up questions. He also shared an email he received from the MCC with application timelines and information about the process.

Members reported on the various organizations/performers with whom they've been in contact.

- Chris reported that Ruth Harcovitz had a tentative date for her WWII song program at the Brooks School for November, which is unlikely to happen. Chris will email her the new extension deadline.

- Anthony said the Friendly Society has not submitted an alternate request for reimbursements.
- Paul said Margaret Wiss would still like to perform in person and will be told of the new deadline.
- Jacob said that Charles River Sinfonia will request reimbursement for the costs of preparing a video of the performance they had to cancel.
- Anthony and Frank said the DeCordova is now open for both outdoor and indoor exhibits and utilizing the grant they received.

7. Finalize and Vote on Parameters for FY20 Extensions re MCC

Members discussed a deadline for 2020 grantees to complete their projects and decided that Labor Day 2021 would give performers the opportunity to reschedule performances indoors throughout the winter and spring if Covid-19 guidelines permit, or at outside venues in the summer, if necessary. A motion was made and seconded to allow grantees that new deadline. Members should contact each of their assigned grantees with that information.

8. Review Upcoming New Grant Cycle Timeline

The possible timeline for reviewing 2021 grants was discussed, keeping in mind that the budget has not yet been determined. Since applicants whose grants have been declined must be given the opportunity to resubmit a revised grant, it was suggested that members take a first pass at the grants to see if any fall into that category at an early December meeting. By the next meeting in January, final decisions on the remaining grants, and the amounts to award, should be made, if the budget has been set by then.

9. Next meeting date and adjournment

The next meeting will be held online on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.