



TOWN OF NORTON

Norton Cultural Council

MINUTES

Date: March 31, 2016 Time: 6:45 p.m.

Location: Town Hall, 2nd floor conference room

Members Present: Rowena Koran, Daniel Pearson, Janet Linehan, Laurie Pleshar, Ann Murray

Members Not Present: Naomi Viglas

The meeting was called to order at: 6:45 p.m. Note taker and time keeper: Ann Murray

Agenda items Please see attached agenda.

The minutes from the Meeting of November 24, 2015 were previously reviewed, approved, and submitted.

The main order of business was discussion/deliberation of grant reimbursement requested by Duane Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan requested \$600 to cover five concerts for seniors to be performed at Epoch of Norton and at the Old Colony Nursing Home in 2015. The NCC partially funded his proposal in the amount of \$400. The Old Colony Nursing Home closed before any performances were given. Mr. Sullivan indicated verbally to Rowena that he was able to perform three times. Rowena confirmed with Epoch that he performed twice on October 6 (once in the nursing facility and once in the assisted living facility) and once on December 8 (in the nursing facility). The NCC discussed two problems with his request for reimbursement. He indicated in his proposal that if he did not receive the full amount requested he would either reduce the number of performances or do the overall project for less. However, he failed to notify the NCC that he would be reducing the number of performances. Secondly, he had not scheduled any of the performances at the time of his grant proposal, as required by the NCC. Samantha Bennett of Epoch said that he contacted her in April to schedule performances, and when she did not get back to him he contacted her again in September saying that he must schedule the performances before January 2016. Only then did they come up with the dates. Whether he had Epoch's prior approval for the performances was unclear. Discussion of Mr. Sullivan's request for reimbursement led to a motion by Janet that we pay the allocated \$400. The motion was approved. We agreed in discussion to more closely evaluate all future grant proposals to be sure that performance dates and venues are set in advance.

The NCC recognizes the need to clarify its expectations for grants on its website, and to be more specific in letters of acceptance that funding is contingent upon fulfilling specified requirements.

Attention then turned to the annual art show and reception for 2016 grant recipients. The reception is scheduled for Thursday, May 12 in the Norton Public Library. The set-up date is Monday, May 9. The due date for submissions is Saturday, May 7. Laurie and Dan will design a flyer seeking entries, and this will be distributed to the art teachers, to the library, and to local businesses. Rowena will advertise the event in the Foxboro Charter School newsletter, which Norton residents who have children at the charter school receive. Similarly, it can also be advertised at the Pinecroft School, now in Rehoboth. Janet said that the Norton Public Library will publicize the event. The NCC will invite grant recipients and members of the Norton Board of Selectmen. At our next meeting we will allocate specific responsibilities.

We briefly discussed the need to recruit new members to the NCC, as Ann will have completed her second term at the end of this spring. Rowena would like the new treasurer in place by next year so she can assist before completing her second term on the NCC in 2017. We need to talk about how the NCC will go forward as current members go off in the next two years.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits used at Meeting

Agenda

Handout from Janet on “What constitutes a deliberation?”

Duane Sullivan’s grant application for 2015

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20. We will meet on: Thursday, April 14 at 7:00.

Minutes Approved by Committee on April 2, 2016.