TOWN OF NORTON

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Norton Cultural Council

MINUTES

Date: February 2, 2017 Time: 7:05 p.m.

Location: Town Hall Lunch Room

Members Present: Daniel Pearson, Janet Linehan, Laurie Pleshar, Kelly Goff and Cary Gouldin

Community Members Present: Peter J. Wiggins

Members Not Present: Rowena Koran and Naomi Viglas

The meeting was called to order at: 7:05 p.m.

Note taker and time keeper: Cary Gouldin

Agenda items Please see attached agenda

Dan Pearson reported that the letters to the grant applicants who were not being funded were sent out on time. Award letters are forthcoming.

Plans for the Student Art Show and Grant Recipient Reception this spring were discussed. It was agreed that the call for student art submissions should go out to art teachers two months in advance to give students ample time to create their artworks. Selection of a date for the show was put off until the March meeting. A theme for the show was discussed. In the past, the more narrowly defined themes seemed to elicit fewer entries. Further discussion of the art show theme will take place during the March meeting.

Dan Pearson a letter that he and Joel Relihan, Classics Professor at Wheaton College, had drafted to the Selectmen proposing the adoption of a town motto.

The town sculpture project was discussed. Dan Pearson circulated a proposal for a "Giant's Causeway" (see attached). Kelly Goff cautioned recommended that we solicit sculpture designs from the public. He also recommended that the final a committee of citizens should select the final design from a field of finalists selected by the Committee. This would allow the committee to eliminate proposals that are offensive, logistically challenging, or otherwise inappropriate. This level of public involvement would enable the Committee to respond to concerns, complaints and objections from the public throughout the process. Kelly, who will be out of the country for

the spring and summer, agreed to compile a procedural outline based on his experience as an artist who has participated in similar projects. He also agreed to advise the Committee via email while he is gone. There was some discussion of whether the sculpture should be designed as a permanent or temporary fixture. Some members advocated for a series of temporary sculptures, each installed for a period of five or so years. Others were more in favor of a single, permanent sculpture. Community member Peter Wiggins suggested that the sculpture focus on what makes Norton unique. It was unanimously decided that the Committee would go forward with the public sculpture project.

Dan Pearson proposed that Norton initiate a sister city relationship with one or more of the many municipalities across the globe named Norton. Norton, MA was named after Norton, Oxforshire, England, making it a natural sister city partner. Other localities discussed include Wales, Canada, Shri Lanka and Zimbabwe. It was decided, in a 5 to 1 vote, that the members research the establishment process.

Dan Pearson will be attending the 2017 Commonwealth Awards. He will also be working on ways to strengthen our relationship with the Town and its officials.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits used at Meeting

Meeting Agenda
Dan Pearson's Giant's Causeway Proposal

Minutes Approved by Committee on: November 9, 2017