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Cultural Council Minutes 05-08-2003

Arlington Arts Council

Minutes of May 8, 2003

Jefferson Cutter House

Present: Elinore Kagan, Michele Meagher, Suzanne McLeod, David Silverman, Mary Babic, Shari Craig, Amy Peters, Karen Dillon and Leland Stein (prospective members)

Absent: Diane Connor, Cheryl Hemenway

Shari Craig called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Item One: Minutes from April; Corrections to Old Minutes

Shari Craig moved that the minutes be approved, Suzanne McLeod seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Shari Craig moved to make corrections to minutes from previous months:

In the January minutes, the grant for Jennifer Ingram should read 2002-24;

In the February minutes, the grant for Jen Flores should read 2001-11;

Michele Meagher seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Item Two: Requests for Payment

2003-01 Request for final payment of \$500 to Dallin PTO for Sol y Canto; Mary Babic moved that the request be granted; Shari Craig seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2003-11 Request for final payment of \$500 to Peirce School for folk dance event. Suzanne McLeod moved that the request be granted; Shari Craig seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2003-13 Request for payment to Sarah Epstein for oral history project on China. The event was presented at the Robbins Library and the Arlington High School. Discussion ensued about lack of publicity to public and lack of notification to Council. In the end, Shari Craig moved that the request be granted; Suzanne McLeod seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2003-08 Request for payment to David Coffin for his presentation to elementary schools. Discussion ensued about lack of receipts or cancelled checks; the motion was tabled until next meeting; Shari Craig will contact townwide PTO about further documentation.

Item Three: Outstanding Grants from 2002

2002-01 Pat Tessone had requested an extension for the presentation of modern dance, until 2/28/03. The deadline has passed, but no RFP has come in.

Grant 2002-03. The Council requested that Mary Babic submit a request in writing for an extension, keeping in mind

that we need to know by mid-September what funds will be available for the coming 2004 grant cycle.

Item Four: New Members

Prospective new members Leland Stein and Karen Dillon introduced themselves. Voting on new members will take place at June meeting.

Item Five: Name Change

Shari has submitted a letter to the Selectmen outlining our reasons for requesting a change (to Arlington Cultural Commission), including asking if there are responsibilities associated with being a Commission (rather than a Council) that we need to know. Members from the Council will attend the 5/19/03 meeting of the Board of Selectmen to present our request.

Item Six: Advocate Articles

Advocate Articles will appear quarterly; Dave Silverman has written the first article, about the Arts Council. Other Council members will review the article before he submits it to Les Masterson on 5/22/03. We will plan future column topics at the June meeting.

Item Seven: Town Day

We will discuss Town Day at the June meeting. There seems to be interest in the sidewalk chalk art event again. Michele will propose the Anyone Can Day idea to the Chamber of Commerce; the MCC sponsors an Arts Week in April.

Item Eight: Other Business

Need for a Council logo. Mary pursuing this.

With a contribution from Shari Craig, the Arts Council joined MAASH. Individual members have received information and may join individually also (\$20/year).

Discussion about whether to change grant voting day (usually last Sunday in October) because it is Middlesex County Open Studios weekend and Michele will be involved with that. Further discussion and decision at a future meeting.

Observed that Somerville Arts Council is having a fundraising benefit concert at Johnny D's, and discussion about what kind of fundraising our council can do.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Babic (and Suzanne McLeod)