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Cultural Council Minutes 11-13-2003

Arlington Cultural Council

Minutes of November 13, 2003

Jefferson Cutter House

Present: Suzanne McLeod, Mary Babic, Shari Craig, Cheryl Hemenway, Leland Stein, Betsy Campbell, Jean Yoder

Absent: Amy Peters, Karen Dillon, Elinore Kagan, Michele Meagher, Diane Connor,

Shari Craig called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

Item One: Minutes from October

Corrections to and clarifications of the minutes were offered.

Elinore had requested new guidelines for a request for partial payment, as the paperwork to process a request is onerous. She had proposed a minimum of \$750, which the Council deemed too high. It was decided that there wouldn't be a minimum figure, but that it would be decided on a case-by-case basis, with an eye toward making the Treasurer's job as streamlined as possible.

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

Item Two: Requests for Payment

2002-22 The Arts Collaborative project has been paid in parts; and is almost paid in full. Suzanne McLeod moved that the final request for payment be granted; Shari Craig seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Elinore Kagan mentioned that all the 2002 grants are now paid, except for those applicants who've requested extensions.

Item Three: Voting on Grant Applications/Recipients for 2004

After the meeting to discuss applications in October, Cheryl Hemenway sent out letters to people whose applications were denied. The letters were sent October 28, 2003; and the council observed the two-week period where we would consider appeals.

There were no appeals. The council proceeded to award grant money for the year.

2004-02 – Dallin Museum – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$3367; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-03 – Neighborhood Photography – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$1200, with the stipulation that there be significant effort to display the exhibit at another location, preferably inside; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-04 – Arlington PTO for "Promised Land" – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$3000;

Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-05 – Brackett School Book Project – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$300, with the stipulation that the money cannot go toward supplies; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-06 – Pat Tassone New Music Project – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$2000, with the stipulation that a CD of the performance be donated to the Robbins Library, and that a concerted effort at PR is made; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-07 – Clay Class at Hardy School – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$650; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-08 – Stratton School Laura Ingalls Wilder presentation– Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$200; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-09 – Peirce School Folk Dance Project – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$625, with the note that this is the second time this application has been granted; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-10 – Dallin School Snappy Dance – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$500; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-11 – Arlington Center for the Arts Shakespeare in the Park – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$1250, with the note that the council discourages dependency on council funds; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-12 – Arlington Friends of the Drama “Laramie Project”– Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$300; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-13 – Suzanne McLeod outdoor art installation – Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$700, with the stipulation that the work be photographed, and that the artist consider presenting her work; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously (Suzanne recused herself).

2004-19 – Dan Fox Made in the Shade– Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$395, with the stipulation that a flyer be posted in the Senior Center and Drake Village, in the effort to include all seniors in the audience; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-Pass Grant 1 – Dallin School “Nutcracker”– Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$630; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

2004-Pass Grant 2 – Thompson School– Cheryl Hemenway moved that the application be granted for \$338.85; Betsy Campbell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Item Four: Going before the Board of Selectmen

After Kathleen Diaz visited one of our meetings this summer, the council agreed that it was wise to present to the entire Board, to keep them apprised of our activities.

It was decided that it would be best to visit in advance of our winter event; and to present a list of the grants for 2004.

Jean Yoder advanced that it would be best for several people to attend – either everyone, or the officers.

Suzanne McLeod volunteered to work up a letter to Marie Krepelka. Cheryl suggested asking Marie to post a note about the upcoming winter event on the large sign outside Town Hall.

Item Five: Letter from Council to Town about lack of arts education

Jean has been working on a letter to various people and official bodies in Arlington about the recent development of no arts education in the public schools. The council decided it was a darn fine letter, and made a few suggestions:

-That something be added about the differential effect on poor and rich within a community.

-That the letter be distributed more widely: to PTOs, to schools, to principals, to Pat Tassone as Director of fine Arts in the school system, to Advocate, to Joanne Gurry, to school committee members, to Karen Tassone the secretary of the school committee, and to Superintendent Kay Donovan.

-that we ask to be on the agenda of the school committee, and present the letter.

Item Six: Winter Event

Betsy reported on the progress of the subcommittee. Thursday January 29 2004 is available at the Whittemore House.

Betsy outlined the tasks: promoting, getting food and drinks, getting sponsors, making and distributing invitations.

There was some discussion about the nature of the event: who's invited, how to show work, networking or collaborative, how to involve/invite public, officials, open mike for presentations... Also whether timeframe is realistic.

The subcommittee was to meet after the regular council meeting to set up a timeline and determine tasks.

Item Seven: Advocate

The council needs to submit its next article for the Advocate arts supplement. It was decided that the article should focus on the Winter Event, and that the subcommittee would handle it.

Item Eight: Council business

Minutes are in disarray! Should be going to Bob Sprague; Mary will email the backlogged minutes to him.

Item Eight: Other business

The woman who won the gift certificate from Elements asked what she could do, now that Elements has gone out of business. Michele Meagher helped resolve, to direct her where she needs to appeal.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Babic