

Walpole Cultural Council

Meeting Minutes for 02/22/2021

Meeting date: February 22, 2021

Time: start 7:00PM; end 8:40

Place: Zoom

Present: Mimi Connell, Mary Cullinane, Kari Denitzio, Sarah McCracken, Clodagh Drummey, Lynne Chiodo

Treasurer's Report- Account is unchanged at \$1,108.12. Two hundred dollars is being held for outstanding grant checks, resulting in a balance of 908.12. A total of \$9,200 has been allocated, creating a net balance of \$10,108.12 of which a 5% administrative fee will be retained in the amount of \$460. Therefore, the net balance available for funding is \$9,648.12. (\$10,108.12 – 460 = \$9,648.12).

Minutes- Minutes of 1/25/21 meeting were accepted.

Grant Denial Letters- Grant denial letters were mailed and there were no requests for reconsideration within the 14 day allotted time period. Keep Walpole Beautiful notified the Council that it received a donation from a bank that more than covered the expenses of the planned electrical box project. It is now in the process of looking for volunteer painters.

Combating Hate and Prejudice Update- Janet A. is trying to get something scheduled for this spring to reschedule the program that was cancelled last May due to the pandemic. The woman that schedules such programs for the high school has been unavailable, but should return to work at the high school soon. She will also plan on a program in the fall and will let us know when these dates have been secured.

Walpole Writes- Kari updated the members on the status of Walpole Writes. The Council is using the submission form used by other cultural councils and is modifying it to specifically represent the Walpole Cultural Council. The Walpole Council's logo will be inserted and the members added more detail form. Kari fully addressed Council members' questions and all Council members voted to move forward with an inaugural Walpole Writes this spring. Some questions were tabled for further thought and are to be again discussed at future Council meetings. These include, Who will judge the essays? Will there be a reception? If so, can it be in- person, or by Zoom? If in-person, what are possible venues? The courtyard at the public library and a section of Barnes and Noble were offered as possible options. Should there be Prizes and, if so, what should they be? Mimi learned from the MCC that administrative funds may be used for prizes. The Council also discussed possible donated items, such as Barnes and Noble gift cards, for prizes. Council discussed the possibility of Walpole media involvement to publicize and raise excitement for Walpole Writes and possibly creating an opportunity for some writers to read their work. The timetable, including roll-out and deadline were discussed and a submission deadline of Monday, April 25th was agreed upon. May 17, 2021 was decided

as the date for final judging. Kari and Clodagh will finalize the entry form and will work on publicity.

Final Grant Application Vote- A final vote of grant applications was taken and it was agreed that grant approval letters may be drafted and mailed out, since there were no requests for reconsideration following two weeks after denial letters were mailed.

Next Meeting scheduled for March 22, 2021.

Minutes approved: March 22, 2021