

Heath Cultural Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 30, 2022 Virtual meeting via ZOOM

Members in attendance: John Clark, Barbara Gordon, Rachel Grabelsky, and Heather Johnson Row.

Visitors: none

Review of November 5, 2022, minutes. Approved unanimously as written.

Update on reimbursement filed by Barbara with Accountant for Susan Gruen's 2022 Hawlemont weaving program grant.

Update on FY23 Teach Weaving at Hawlemont application. Request by Susan Gruen to modify to "purchase weaving benches", instead of "purchase materials to build benches". Will discuss further when application reviewed later in meeting.

FY23 Grant Applications First Pass Review.

Barbara read the number and title of each application in the order they were presented in the MCC Panel Book. Council members were given the opportunity to express potential value and interest in each application. If a single member expressed interest in discussing the merits of an application, it was earmarked for later discussion and full consideration. If no interest was expressed by any member for consideration of a listed project, it was determined to be denied funding. The following verbiage was utilized:

A. "Is there any support for in-depth discussion of this grant application?"
"Hearing none, I will entertain a motion to deny application # _____, for the project _____.

Second? Discussion? All in favor of denial? All opposed to denial?"

B. "Hearing support, we will return to this application later in this meeting for further consideration".

All denials voted during this part of the meeting were unanimous.

On the first pass, the following applications were denied due to no support from any member of our Council:

LCC-46229: Antenna Cloud Farm 2023 Season

LCC-45704: Conway Fine Arts concert series, Season 2 concerts

LCC-40539: Mohawk Trail Regional School Students visit Double Edge

LCC-36111: Hawlemont elementary Teach Weaving

LCC-37389: Culomba: Singing workshop and Concert

LCC-37733: Tiny Glass Tavern concert and singing workshop

LCC-35958: Always Remember- Showcase from the world premiere

LCC-47260: News from Tomorrow Morning (Pilot)

LCC-42095: The Power of Place (Great Falls Discovery Center)

LCC-41244: 10th Annual Pocumtuck Homelands Festival

LCC-44570: Dancing at Lughnasa play

All denial decisions were unanimous. The above applications were immediately denied for one of two reasons. All except one were officially denied because they were not considered to provide as much local community benefit when compared to other proposals we received. One (LCC-35958 Always Remember) was denied due to failure to meet our local criteria, and failing to verify a local partner, (inadequate evidence of local community support and we do not have the required local Cable channel required in their proposal). Each denial was to be entered the following morning into the MCC Smart Simple Grants Management System from the options offered.

FY23 Applications, second pass review:

A second pass was made, in order, of the applications which at least one Council Member had deemed worthy of consideration. Each of these applications was voted through proper motions, seconds, discussion and voting. All approved applications were approved unanimously by our Council.

Amounts to grant to each project were not finalized until a third pass, when we could review the amounts requested relative to our available funds. Out of our total original available funds of \$6,025, as permitted by MCC, \$250 was set aside for administrative costs. No funds were set aside for FY23 Council Led projects. This left us with \$5,775 available for FY23 granting. Heather Johnson Row, acting as our Treasurer, tracked our budget and helped us to ensure that all available

funds (\$5,775) were granted without overcommitment. The following projects were approved. Total grants approved was \$5,775.

THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS WERE APPROVED:

The amount requested by the applicant is listed first, followed by the amount we ultimately voted to appropriate. All votes were unanimous.

LCC-40804 Raising Our Voices, A Summer Reading performance: \$475 / \$475

LCC-42661 Charlemont Forum Summer Speakers 2023: \$300 / \$200

LCC-32810 Heath Artists Exhibition 2023: \$778 / \$500

****Rachel Grabelsky left ZOOM, recused from discussion and vote due to conflict of interest. Paperwork filed with Town. John Clark and Barbara Gordon filed different paperwork with the Town documenting that they each served with the applicant (Harry Hallman) last year on the HCC and acknowledging ability to avoid favoritism when considering this year's application from him.**

LCC-27876 Heath Fair Music: \$1250 / \$1,000

LCC-36409 Heath Herald: \$800 / \$500

****Rachel Grabelsky left ZOOM, recused from discussion and vote due to conflict of interest. Paperwork filed with Town.**

LCC-26655 Hilltown Families Suggests: \$325 / \$150

LCC-46709 Hilltown Youth Recovery Theatre Summer Workshop: \$2,500 / \$100

LCC-41901 Pothole Pictures 2023 Season: \$350 / \$250

LCC-33604 Mohawk Trail Concerts Summer Festival 2023: \$800 / \$400

****John Clark left ZOOM, recused from discussion and vote due to conflict of interest. Paperwork filed with Town.**

LCC-41495 Mohawk Reg Highschool Darkroom: \$917 / \$100

LCC-29017 MTRSD Colonial Experience at Wilder Homestead: \$300 / \$100

LCC-41441 The Time Capsule: Theater residency at Hawlemont: \$500 / \$400

LCC-37238 Evening Sky Tours: \$750 / \$500

LCC-45380 Winter HooPla: \$200 / \$200

LCC-44360 Heath COA Square Dance series: \$400 / \$400

LCC-45855 Doug Wilkins Heath Fair Square Dance: \$500 / \$500

TREASURER, Heather Row, charged with maintaining a spread sheet of our budget and approved FY23 grants and distributing copy to HCC members.

CHAIR, Barbara Gordon, charged with entering DENIALS into Smart Simple Grants Management System for auto delivery of decisions tomorrow morning.

CHAIR, Barbara Gordon, charged with entering APPROVALS into MCC Smart Simple System for auto reporting 2 weeks after denials distributed (only if no formal requests for reconsideration received from applicants receiving denials.)

CHAIR, Barbara Gordon, charged with sending APPROVAL letters electronically via HCC Gmail to all successful applicants once reconsideration period closes and after filing required annual report with MCC.

Mutually agreeable date established for potential reconsideration meeting. Required if any denied grantee requests one within 2 weeks of notification. Meeting will be held via ZOOM on Friday, December 16th, 2022, at 7:30 PM. Barbara will post as required by OML.

Adjourned through unanimous vote.

Draft of Minutes prepared by Barbara Gordon 12/1/23

Approved unanimously 7/24/23