1. Roll Call and Welcome.

Members Present: Barbara Gordon, Heather Wynne, Sarah Coe.

Members absent today: Doug Wilkins, Heather Rowe

2. Additional attendees: *Cindy Davidson, Dana Davidson*Brief personal introductions. Cindy Davidson is interested in becoming a member of the Council and taking on the role of Treasurer. She has abundant professional financial / banking experience.

- 3. Approval of December 6, 2023 minutes. **VOTED:** unanimously accepted as written.
- 4. Update on grants reimbursed since last meeting:

2023 grants: Piti Theatre Co \$400, time capsule theater residency Hawlemont,

Heath COA 3/4 square dances reimbursed \$300 of \$400 grant. \$100 now available for FY25.

2024 grants: Mohawk Trail Concerts \$500,

The Art Garden draw around \$300,

Heath public library Young at Heart performance \$605,

MTRSD Colonial days field trip to Wilder Homestead \$100,

Heath COA craft day \$325 (\$25 still encumbered).

5. Update on 2023 grants that failed to complete or reimburse:

Hilltown Youth Recovery Theater \$100,

Art Garden Winter Hoopla \$200

Extension granted to Evening Sky Tours at Benson place until Oct \$500

- 6. Discuss Reimbursement vs Direct Grant options...**VOTED:** unanimous vote to continue on Reimbursement grant operating method.
- 7. Discuss Council Description, Funding priorities, and Guidelines for MCC publication FY25. **VOTED:** Unanimously voted to publish identical verbiage on MCC web page with the exception of editing prior "one per grant cycle" to "one per applicant per grant cycle".
- 8. Discuss HCC Member Roles, edit as preferred, elect officers. **VOTE:** Unanimous vote and acceptance by candidates of following roles: Barbara Gordon, Chair.

Sarah Coe, Secretary

Unanimous vote in favor of Doug Wilkins for PR role. In absentia. To be confirmed.

Unanimous vote for Cindy Davidson as Treasurer if successfully appointed by SB to our Council.

Unanimous vote for Heather Wynne as Treasurer if Cindy fails to finalize appointment.

9. Discuss SmartSimple system registration for members vs applicants. Sarah Coe is now registered. Heather Wynne and Doug Wilkins need to register. Barbara needs alternate e-mail addresses for these members to initiate the process because they are already in the system as "applicants" and need a different e-mail to separately register as council members. Heather will forward a new email address for that purpose and Barbara will initiate her registration.

- 10. Discuss Council-Led projects as an option requiring future budget designation. No projects under consideration at this time. Members are welcome to float suggestions if interested.
- 11. Update on Local Cultural Advocacy initiatives...Community Hall Cultural Facilities Grant for restoration of nave windows. Matching funds now secured for certification of State funds. Over \$22K raised (minimum \$17K required). Process in hands of Town Coordinator and Select Board. Successful Benefit Chamber Concert held July 26.
- 12. Grant meetings (decisions meeting, plus or minus a reconsideration meeting 2 weeks after denial letters go out). Grant applications open September 1 and close October 16. Try to conclude related business before Thanksgiving and certainly before end of calendar year to simplify management of grant cycle paperwork. Members to submit preferences for roughly when to meet next for granting process.

13. Additional business/ ACTION ITEMS:

Financial Report is due into system BEFORE October 16. Barbara and Cindy will work on this together once she is appointed. MCC holding a training webinar for this on Sept 12 from 3-4 PM. Barbara will attend (+/- Cindy?). Recorded video will be released following it.

Grant information training webinar by MCC Sept 5 from 6-7 PM. Members should consider attending or watching recorded video when released.

Barbara to confirm that Doug will accept PR role for our council then work with Doug on required PR to announce opening of FY25 Grant applications.

Cindy to send letter of interest to Select Board to join our Council.

Barbara to send letter in support of Cindy to Select Board.

Barbara to update MCC webpage with members, description, guidelines and priorities.

Adjourned 11:25 AM

Minutes compiled and draft respectfully submitted by Barbara Gordon 8/25/24
Minutes approved as written
unanimously 11/3/24