

**Needham Cultural Council  
Minutes of Meeting  
Tuesday, September 13, 2016  
Town Hall**

**Present:** Mary Hensley, David Ecsedy, Elise Miller, Beth Wells, Kristen Mazzocchi, Sharon Brietbart, Carmen Varga

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM.

The minutes of the previous meeting (August 18) were approved.

Each of the members present said a little about his/her background and interests in the Council. Sharon is a new confirmed member; Carmen is hoping to officially join soon.

Jody Feinberg, who has served as Secretary of the Council, has resigned her membership.

David and Beth are working on a Needham Cultural Council database covering all known cultural organizations in and associated with Needham, for the use of all members.

Most of the rest of the meeting was devoted to the FY17 grant cycle. Mary mentioned that it was important to try to get in touch with all of the schools, their PTCs, and David Neves of the school department. It was noted that timing is important since the grant cycle starts now just when the school year is beginning. The deadline for grant applications is October 17, and there is about \$4900 available. We will know which applications that we will be considering by November 1.

Sharon spoke about funding the NEF. Elise likes the idea of an arts scholarship. The Winter Arts Festival will be funded (\$500).

Kristen is planning to meet with Michelle Vallincourt on September 23 to complete the Treasurer's report. Kristen reported that 5 approved grant recipients: Needham Concert Society, Needham Historical Society, New Year's Needham, Solstice, and Plugged-In still have not claimed their money. Also Handel and Haydn has not responded from the year before! David agreed to contact New Year's Needham, and Kristen will remind all the others.

The next Council meeting is expected to be on Thursday October 13, with the following meeting on Wednesday November 9.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

David Ecsedy

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