



NEEDHAM CULTURAL COUNCIL

MEETING Agenda & MINUTES-9/12

7:00 PM, September 12, 2018 | Location: Great Plain Room, Needham Town Hall

Agenda

- Welcome new members and introductions
- Review grant deadlines/timelines
- Update from Chair on meeting with Sandy Cincotta and Devra Bailin
- Update from Chair on meeting with Patty Carey from Needham Parks and Recreation
- Vote on funding for Winter Arts Festival and Needham Lights
- Vote on funding of Electrical Box project at new Rosemary Recreation Complex

Attendees

Sharon Breitbart, Kristen Mazzocchi, Monique Harrington, Elizabeth Cook, Ron Lowry, Yael Halperin
Guests: Sandy Cincotta and Devra Bailin

Monique and Elizabeth new members

Scribe

Gail Lustig

Minutes

Welcome

Kristen introduced herself and asked everyone to introduce themselves with a small bio.

We are now 11 or 12 strong! One of our main duties is to disperse money. We are part of the pilot program where we give out the grant money before the events versus after the events with invoices. We have already put an ad in the paper to ask for applications. Ask people you know to apply.

Devra: Is it clear if we can apply for the grant?

Kristen: We used to keep money on our own account for our own program. We are going to look out how this can be done for Needham Lights

All team members introduced themselves

Review grant deadlines/timelines

- Can go on the MCC website which has all of the information and a toolkit for local Community Councils
- Kristen will send the information for MCC so they can complete the training and go through the materials
- September 1 everything went online/October 15 is deadline
- Let people know about the application being available

Sandy Cincotta and Devra Bailin

Needham Lights - can the NCC support this in any way?

- Started as the luminary which raised money for the pool
- Needham Lights is currently a question since we don't know if the community center of
- Needham will participate or provide the \$5,000 that they in the past
- Parent Talk will provide the crafts and tables
- Mentalist and Kilted Colin each cost \$1,000
- Used to be three orgs: NBA, merchants, Needham Community Center
- Rhythmic dancers and Irish step dancers will come; Leeann Sutton sent out a note to the A Capella Groups, Jam Sandwich; Kristen will ask Willy Wonka
- Muzi will sponsor balloon artist
- Get face painters from the HS
- YMCA will do Parents Night Out
- Haven't done a lot of outreach to senior community
- 2-5 is the indoor event; Tree lighting is at 5
- Chamber is not doing the fire event this year
- Need to pay for artists, fire, police, custodian, monitor a/v, ads - don't have anything to compare it with (roughly \$3,000)
- Could we have a donation jar for fundraising at the event? Most folks would put money in a jar - we have the okay for that
- Roche Brothers provided the food
- We need a sponsor to keep Needham Lights alive

Needham Winter Arts Festival

- Grant has been applied for
- Didn't use money from NCC last year
- Have a bit of money left from last year
- We have money from NeedArts as well - \$4,376.88; it is currently not being used
- Saturday, December 8, 10-3, Great Hall
- Should we advertise both events together? Come up with a name?
- Merchants have discounts or later hours
- Restaurants offer specials too
- Open studios are struggling as well
- NCC will look at the campaign along with Sandy and Devra to bring it together

- Should we do something where we have people find things - takes people on a journey?
- Adirondack chairs didn't seem to help the merchants
- Devra mentioned a treasure hunt and the merchants did not like the idea
- Biggest problem is getting the word out
- Don't have a huge ad budget - there is interest in our participating

Are we even able to take a vote? We don't have enough people to take a vote today.

They are looking for someone outside of town employees who can look for sponsors. Is this something that we want to do?

What is the history of the council? We get the grant money and dole it out. It was a very small amount of money. Always wondered what else we should be doing.

The general feeling is that we should raise money for projects we partner on. There is a feeling that there are a number of programs that could be thought through better from a promotion standpoint.

Winter Arts Festival does not need a vote unless we do not get the grant since this has already been committed.

Needham Lights does not seem to be a good fit for NCC right now. We can encourage them to apply for a grant. If they cannot apply due to rules we can save some money from our grant to give to them.

Sharon moves that this is not the correct project for us fund or help find sponsors for at this time. However, we will be open to proposals to partner for an arts related event in the future. Gail seconded. Favor: unanimous

Table wrapping of the box at the Rosemary Recreation Complex until next meeting

Kristen will send out an email about regarding the next meeting.

Sharon moved to adjourn; Yael seconded at 8:37 pm

Action Items

- Kristen to schedule upcoming meetings
- Kristen to send the information for MCC so new members can complete the training and go through the materials

Next Meeting Agenda Items

- Wrapping of the box at the Rosemary Recreation Complex