



MEETING MINUTES

May 12th, 2022 7:06 PM | ZOOM (VIRTUAL)

TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
FACILITATOR	Jennifer Riley
NOTE TAKER	Brandon Lewis
ATTENDEES	Nikki Erskine, Brandon Lewis, Lisa Malo, David Filar, Jennifer Riley, Christopher Rich, Silvana Boaheng
LATE	
GUESTS	Shaun Bartone, Christa Drew

AGENDA TOPICS

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	
CONCLUSION	Approved
Lisa Malo motioned to approve, David seconded	

II. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- A. No members from the public at the time of this agenda item

III. BUDGET REPORT	
CONCLUSION	Approved
Brandon Lewis motioned to approve, David seconded	

IV. GRANT REIMBURSEMENTS

APP #	Grantee	Amount	Decision	Status	Notes
WAC-91	The Hanover Theatre	\$5,000	Approved	FINAL	

V. GRANT MODIFICATIONS/AMENDMENTS

- A. Brooklyn Flores
 - 1. Provisionally approved previously, received more information- confirmed dates
- B. Pakachoag Music School
 - 1. Requesting change in payment allocation to pay after-school building manager at Elm Park School, so that program can continue. Need more clarification about Worcester Public School employee- must confirm that after school building manager is not a City of Worcester employee
 - 2. Will provisionally approve payment for Pakachoag teacher, and conditionally approve for possible City of Worcester employee

VI. NEA GRANT UPDATES

- A. Review of guidelines
 - 1. do not want to limit the number of grants available, but would like to set the grant amounts
 - 2. Nikki brought up the consideration for the administrative work required for follow up
- Worcester Arts Council | City Hall, 4th Floor, 455 Main Street | Worcester, MA 01608**
 508.799.1400 x.31414 | worcesterma.gov/WAC | artscouncil@worcesterma.gov



3. Vote on offering amounts of \$2,500, \$5,000, \$7,500, \$10,000 - **approved**.
 4. Lisa mentioned that guidelines should be as concise as possible
 5. Conversation about restricting the City of Worcester vs. Worcester County
 - a) decision to align with WAC Project guidelines- Worcester County
 6. Do we need to have different funding priorities for this grant cycle vs. our previous grant cycle? Should priorities be different?
 - a) Christa/Nikki will forward question to NEA representative
 7. Question about eligibility- NEA funds vs. LCC/MCC funds
 - a) will revise wording on this section
 8. Will look into section about 504
- B. Review of application
1. Question about individual applying, vs. someone applying for someone else
 2. Add: "how does your project align with our funding priorities?"
- C. Question about where the application will be hosted
1. Airtable, Cognito Forms, Submittable
 - a) Consider expense for chosen platform- not in original or revised budget
- D. Any comments will need to be put in by 5pm, Sunday, May15th

VII. Public Statement/Question

- A. Shaun Bartone: Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission: Imagine 2050- survey. Arts and Culture missing from survey, citizen expressed concern

VIII. WORKING GROUP UPDATES

- A. Grant Reception: Confirmed date and location: Friday August 19th, 7-9pm, JMAC
- B. Community Input Survey: Proposed approach/budget created by Sean, sent to the council
- C. Grant Guidelines: Meeting next week- will update

IX. STAFF UPDATES

- A. Question about hoodies- needed to increase the administrative budget
 1. Lisa motioned to approve up to \$360 additional for shipping expenses, Chris seconded
- B. Erin Williams, stepping down in mid-June. Having going away party June 3rd at JMAC 7pm-11pm
- C. Indian Lake Community Association- question on event. Formal grant amendment will be received

X. #WACFUNDED EVENTS

- A. Worcester youth Orchestra Spring Community concert
- B. Downtown Walking Tour- 100 years of Worcester
- C. Flamenco Worcester
- D. Juneteenth
- E. Southeast Asian Coalitions- Asian Festival
- F. Studio Theater Worcester- Next to Normal

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:48PM