

Gloucester Cultural Council Minutes

Wednesday, January 27th, 2021-5:30pm

Remote meeting on Zoom

CITY CLERK
GLOUCESTER, MA

2021 FEB 11 PM 1:08

GCC members present: Shayla Kaufmann Swigart, Elizabeth Neumeier, Jane Keddy, Laura Crook Waxdal, Lucas Cotterman

GCC not present: Rebecca Nagle

Guests: Arthur Thomas, Karen Koretsky, Mayor Sefatia Romeo Thejen

Zoom Host: Jill Cahill, Community Development Director, City of Gloucester

The 5:30 pm meeting was called to order. The City's statement of requirements for remote readings was read.

Karen Koretsky agreed to take minutes. The minutes from the January 13th, 2021 meeting were approved by Shalya, Lucas seconded, minutes approved unanimously.

Elizabeth Neumeier will submit minutes to the city for public posting.

Council is continuing their review of applicants for a 2021 Mass Cultural Council (MCC) grant. Shayla sent out queries requesting clarifications and provided council with updates.

Council agreed to reject three applications (determined in a prior meeting) for not meeting the council's funding criteria. Elizabeth shared examples of her denial letters. Letters will be mailed by Elizabeth to applicants on January 28th, 2021. Denied applicants have fifteen days to request reconsideration.

Council reviewed grant applications that had been determined in an earlier meeting as "maybes".

After the 2021 grant round has concluded, council will meet to finetune guidelines for grant funding in the future. Restrictions for grantees who are granted funds each year may be adopted.

Art Thomas shared a robust database that he has developed for the council to track current applicants and former grantees. The database loads and does a sort of data from the MCC. Council suggested a few potential modifications. The database will be quite helpful, and council expressed collective gratitude for the development.

Council discussed preliminary plan to allocate funds to the approved grantees.

Meeting on February 10th, 2021 at 5:30pm to determine the allocation of funds.

Jane Keddy will tell council how much in unused funds have carried over from 2020 and are available for either administrative or allocation purposes.

Meeting on February 17th, 2021 at 5:30pm to finalize allocations and vote.

The Mayor informed the council of various works of art in Gloucester City Hall that she would like placed in designated spots in the city and asked for help in a future meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Shayla Kaufmann Swigart, Jane Keddy seconded, approved unanimously.