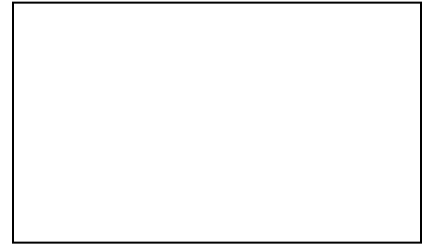




GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR OF BUSINESS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 09, 2012
7:00 P.M.
KYROUZ AUDITORIUM, CITY HALL
COUNCIL MEETING #2012-20



UNANIMOUS CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION

1. Establishment of a proposed partnership between the City and the Downtown Gloucester Cultural District Committee

(Refer P&D)

Mayor Carolyn Kirk
City of Gloucester
Dale Avenue
Gloucester MA 01930

September 12, 2012

RE: Downtown Gloucester Cultural District

Dear Mayor Kirk:

As you know, the Downtown Gloucester Cultural District steering committee has been working for many months to prepare an application to the Massachusetts Cultural Council for cultural district status. I am pleased to say that we have completed much of the application and we are finally ready to initiate the city process.

We are contacting Councilor Melissa Cox and asking her to bring this issue before the City Council for the purpose of scheduling a public hearing and passing a resolution in favor of the designation.

We have spent many months outlining the boundaries of our proposed Cultural District and reaching out to the community to encourage support and enlist partners for the CD. Our partnership process differs from the model established by the Rocky Neck Cultural District in that we are asking all interested parties to become partners. The commitment from these partners may differ, but from this group will emerge Cultural District leadership as is outlined in our Partnership Agreement which is also attached to this letter. I am enclosing a map of the proposed cultural district as well.

We look forward to partnering with the City in this endeavor as we continue with this application process. Should you desire any further information, please feel free to contact me at Judith@nii.net.

Thank you for all of your help and support with the Downtown Cultural District.

Very truly,

Judith Hoglander
Bob Whitmarsh
Co-Chairs
Downtown Gloucester Cultural District

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
for the
DOWNTOWN GLOUCESTER CULTURAL DISTRICT

ARTICLE I

Name and Mission, Purpose, and Nature of Partnership

1. The name of this Partnership will be Downtown Gloucester Cultural District (DGCD).
2. The mission and purpose of the Partnership is to lead, stimulate, and guide the development of a vibrant, innovative arts and cultural district that enhances economic development in Gloucester, MA.
3. This is a voluntary Partnership between the DGCD members and the City of Gloucester.
4. The City of Gloucester recognizes the importance of the Downtown Gloucester Cultural District in fostering economic growth through its cultural assets and will, through its designated representatives, use its resources to actively assist in accomplishing those goals set forth by the Partnership's Board. The Partnership will be accountable to the City of Gloucester, which will have governing authority over DGCD.

ARTICLE II
Membership

1. Please see Addendum for list of Partnership Members.
2. Other individuals or organizations may be added to this Partnership as deemed appropriate by majority vote of the current membership.
3. Any member of the Partnership may withdraw at any time.

ARTICLE III
Governance

1. The Partnership will be governed by a Board of Officers. Officers of the Partnership (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Clerk) shall be nominated/elected from among the members of the Partnership for a term of two years. Officers are drawn from members in varying specialties across the district to ensure that full diversity of its membership has representation.
2. Each member of the Partnership shall have the authority to represent his/her parent organization except that all financial commitments, if any, made on behalf of the parent organization must be approved by the appropriate body within that organization.
3. The Chairperson for the Partnership will be a designated representative of the City of Gloucester for the first two years of the Partnership. After the first two years of the

Partnership, the Chairperson will be elected by the Officers from among the Cultural Members. The term of office for Chairperson will be two years.

4. The Officers may hire or appoint an Executive Director, who will be responsible for the daily administrative functions of the Partnership. Specific duties and compensation will be determined by the Officers of the Partnership.
5. All Officers are voting members. The Executive Director is a non-voting member of the Board. Each member organization will have no more than one vote per organization.

ARTICLE IV Duties of Officers

The Chairperson of the Partnership shall have executive supervision over the activities of the Partnership as follows:

1. Prepare for all meetings with assistance of the Executive Director.
2. Oversee the management and administration of the Partnership.
3. Facilitate all meetings of the Partnership.

The Officers of the Partnership will:

1. Assume responsibility for specific activities of the Partnership necessary to carry out its mission and purpose, and as defined by the officers of the Partnership.
2. Represent all members of the DGCD, including their parent organizations.
3. Keep all members of the DGCD, including their parent organizations, informed of the activities of the Partnership.

The Executive Director will:

1. Prepare for all meetings with assistance of the Chairperson.
2. Prepare and distribute minutes of all meetings.
3. Maintain a membership directory and other records of the Partnership.
4. Maintain communication and reporting functions with Massachusetts Cultural Council.
5. Serve as the liaison with the City and its officers, attending all relevant meetings.
6. Respond to inquiries from the media and the general public, oversee PR, administer the organization's website(s), and develop programming.
7. Oversee grant writing/funding research for the Partnership.
8. Assist in additional duties as determined by the Officers of the Partnership.

ARTICLE V Committees

Committees shall be established by the Officers of the Partnership as needed.

ARTICLE VI
Finances

1. Activities of the Partnership will, to the extent possible, be planned and implemented through existing resources of the Partnership, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and the participating agencies of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
2. If and when funding is needed to carry out the Mission of the Partnership, funds may be raised by the Partnership through dues, grants, and philanthropic sources.
3. Dues or special assessments, if any, levied on the Partners must be approved by all of the parent organizations.
4. The fiscal year for the Partnership will be January 1 through December 31.

ARTICLE VII
Authorized Expenditures

1. When appropriate, an annual budget will be developed and approved by the Officers at the last meeting before the beginning of the Partnership's fiscal year.
2. All expenditures, if any, for the Partnership will be reviewed and approved by the Officers.
3. Residual assets, if any, of the Partnership, upon dissolution, will be returned to the member organizations.

ARTICLE VIII
Meetings and Quorums

1. Regular meetings of the Officers of the Partnership will be held no less than twice per year.
2. A majority of the Officers must be present to constitute a quorum.
3. Except as provided in Article IX, voting shall be by a majority of members present and voting.

ARTICLE IX
Amendments

This Partnership Agreement may only be altered, amended, or repealed by the majority vote of the Officers.

This Partnership Agreement is agreed to this date:

Partner (print)

Partner (sign) Date

4/20/12

Downtown Gloucester Cultural District

Perimeter Description:

From **Middle Street** at **Legion Square** turn LEFT on **Washington Street** to **St. Peter's Park**

Follow **Rogers Street**, including all **Harbor Walk** segments, to, and around, **Harbor Loop**

Continue RIGHT on **Rogers Street**, LEFT on **Manuel F. Lewis Street**

RIGHT on **Main Street**, LEFT on **Spring Street**

Return on **Spring Street**, RIGHT on **Main Street**

RIGHT on **Pleasant Street**, LEFT on **Warren Street**

LEFT on **Dale Avenue**, RIGHT on **Middle Street** back to **Legion Square**

Note: Both sides of all perimeter streets are included in the Cultural District.

Street List

The length of the district which runs East and West can be traveled on the Harbor Walk, Harbor Loop, Rogers Street, Main Street, Warren Street, and Middle Street. Main Street traverses the center of the Cultural District is from Washington Street in the West End to Spring Street in the East End. Rogers Street, one block South of Main Street, goes from Washington Street to Manuel Lewis Way. The section of Middle Street that is in the Cultural District is from Washington Street including Legion Square to Pleasant Street. Warren Street is a short street North of Middle Street that connects Dale Avenue to Pleasant Street.

The connecting streets and walkways from Rogers Street to Main Street starting in the West End are Washington Street, Mansfield Way, Boynton Way, Porter Street, Hancock Street, Perkins Way, Duncan Street, and Manuel Lewis Way.

The connecting streets from Main Street to Middle Street starting in the West End are Washington Street, Short Street, Center Street, Hancock Street, Bank Gloucester Way, and Pleasant Street.

The connecting streets from Middle Street to Warren Street are Dale Avenue and Pleasant Street.

Cultural District Information Letter

Please allow us to introduce you to a Cultural District – what it is and why Gloucester would benefit from the establishment of a Downtown Cultural District in the area around the downtown and harbor.

A Cultural District is a specific geographical area in a city or town that has a concentration of cultural facilities, activities, and assets. It is a walkable, compact area that is easily identifiable to visitors and residents and serves as a center of cultural, artistic and economic activity.

The Statute that created Cultural District has specific goals. They are:

1. Attract artists and cultural enterprises
2. Encourage business and job development
3. Establish the district as a tourist destination with focus on sustainable tourism
4. Preserve and reuse historic buildings
5. Enhance property values
6. Foster local cultural development

The Downtown/Harbor Cultural District will encourage Gloucester to strengthen its sense of place, maintain the integrity of the historic harbor and downtown areas, while stimulating economic activity, improving the experience of visitors to our community and creating a higher quality of life.

The Massachusetts legislature designated the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) to administer the Cultural District initiative and although no budget for grants or other financial rewards were made available for at least the first year, the MCC has identified state agencies whose programs and services may benefit designated and approved Cultural Districts.

The programs and services to be made available include: Strategic community planning, marketing and promotion, historic property stewardship, way finding signage, open space programming, and economic development. (These resources include programs from the MCC, Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, Department of Housing and Community Development, Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Transportation and the Massachusetts Historical Commission.)

As we on the Downtown Cultural District Steering Committee move forward, it is imperative that we develop a partnership with the diverse mix of organizations and individuals that represent the interests in the proposed district. Therefore, we welcome you to our conversation and the planning process!

Thank you.
Sincerely,

The Cultural District Steering Committee