

Groton LCC Unofficial Meeting

November 4, 2013

7:30 Groton Town Hall

Minutes submitted by Pat Hartvigsen, Recorder

Members present: Lili Ott, Mary Jennings, Susan Randazzo Schulman, Monica Hinojos, Frank Conahan, Ann Wilson, Joni Parker-Roach, Dina Mordeno, Pat Hartvigsen

The minutes from the November 5, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Mary Jennings moved that they be approved as written. Frank Conahan offered a second. The minutes were unanimously approved.

We are delighted to welcome several new members this year. All council members will be returning next year.

Gretchen Hummon and Frank Conahan agreed to write letters for this year. Frank will write denial letters to be sent out immediately. After two weeks if none of those denied are challenged, Gretchen will write acceptance letters to those being funded.

The total amount being requested this year is less than the amount we have available. We have \$5650.00 in available funds this year. We have options for use of the remaining money. We can keep and carry funds into the coming year. We can also increase money given to any applicant beyond the amount being requested.

Committee members considered ways that we might encourage increased requests for the coming year. The suggestions included:

- divide up the list of those making requests in the past and personally reach out to applicants
- send an informational letter or card to those who made requests in the past
- hold an event to meet the public, discuss grants and broaden interest
- reach out to those who did not get funded, particularly those who did not meet our criteria, helping them to strengthen or support future requests
- have a table at Groton fest/ list all the programs and individuals previously funded/contact Harri regarding the banner he created

The criteria outlined by our council and used in past years is as follows:

1. local artist or program
2. low administrative cost
3. broad appeal
4. benefits Groton residents
5. local sponsor

*Mary suggested that we add that any school request be accompanied by a letter from a principal, department head or curriculum coordinator. There was consensus that this should be added.

Tonight we will review the grants. We will meet again in two weeks to take a formal vote on these requests.

This year's grant requests:

1. Pecha Kucha pot luck supper to raise money to start an art fund for local children who want to take art lessons but cannot afford them.

\$250 requested/decision not to fund as this is a fundraiser not a program/this is an interesting and admirable idea but needs to be more fully developed.

2. Contemporary Arts International, Inc. (CAI) brings artists to transform quarry stones into sculptures

\$500 requested/ \$500 granted

3. Hands on History American Revolutionary War program to all 3rd graders at Florence Roche

\$300 requested/ \$300 granted

4. Literacy through music and poetry presented to all 3rd graders

\$500 requested/ \$500 granted

5. Mexican dinner and Mariachi band for seniors

\$400 requested/ \$400 granted

6. Spring concert at Harvard Unitarian Church

\$250 requested/\$250 granted

7. **Susan Randazzo Schulman recused herself on this vote

Monthly free concerts at Indian Hill Music

\$500 requested/ **\$600 granted (an additional \$100 was added to the request made)

8. Nashoba Valley Chorale

\$500 requested/ \$500 granted

9. Groton Greenway Committee River Festival

\$450 requested/ \$450 granted

10. Marble Collection e-mentoring of young artists, statewide digital and print magazine of the arts featuring student work

\$400 requested/ \$400 granted

11. Art workshops at the Virginia Thurston Healing Garden

\$300 requested/ **\$600 granted (an additional \$300 workshop was funded)

A total of \$4,500 was granted leaving \$1150 as remaining funds.

A meeting will be posted to be held on Monday, November 18 at Town Hall at 7:00. At that time a formal vote will be taken regarding this year's funding of grant requests.