The Groton Local Cultural Council (LCC) held its publicly announced meeting on Tuesday, October 24, 2023,at the Groton Town Hall in the small, first floor meeting room. Present in person were Co-Chair Harris McWade, members Deb Busser, Leslie Lathrop, Nancy Muller, and Kathleen Phelps. Christine Brooks and Co-Chair Judith Romatelli were absent.

McWade opened the meeting with a quorum at 7:03 p.m. The first agenda item was approval of minutes of the October 12th meeting, previously distributed electronically to all members. Phelps moved approval, seconded by McWade. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

Phelps reminded the LCC that we have only $8,205 to disperse in grant monies to FY24 applicants as new grantees, as noted in the previous October 12th meeting. She stated that requests of the 41 proposals received for consideration total $24,045, or nearly three times our available funds.

Going through the 41 online applications received by the October 17th Massachusetts state deadline, the group shelved for elimination any application that it unanimously agreed either failed to meet the posted LCC objectives as requirements for proposals or was slated to be offered in a distant location unlikely to attract participants/attendees from Groton.

As the LCC had previously discussed the desire to achieve greater balance among the FY24 grantee pool, it then directed discussion to those requests said to benefit and include youth and/or families with young children.

Busser reminded members present that in the interest of achieving such balance, the LCC had previously agreed to limit the number of approved grants, in part or in whole, strictly targeting seniors to a total of four in FY24. Muller shared her calculations for each of the 41 requests to compare dollar requested per capita served statistics as a measure of the impact cost of each. She added that this tool might help the group determine proposals that should be only partially funded, if at all, in the hopes that program participants/attendees might be required to help pay for program materials or a ticket. It also may be considered a measure of a proposal’s “value”.

There were no formal votes taken, as McWade asked each member to diligently read through all the proposals up for consideration so that at subsequent meetings we can work to whittle the list of recipients and/or the amounts to be granted so that the total does not exceed our available funds of $8,205. The next meeting date is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 14th, location to be determined either at the Groton Public Library or Town Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Muller, Secretary

October 25, 2023