

## ORLEANS CULTURAL COUNCIL

Local cultural councils, serving every city and town in Massachusetts, offer grants to projects in the arts, humanities and sciences that will be of benefit to their community.

### Notes for meeting of January 11, 2022

#### Opening

The regular meeting of the Orleans Cultural Council was called to order at 4:30 PM on January 11, 2021 at Orleans Town Hall, Orleans, Massachusetts. It was held as a hybrid meeting, both in-person and on Zoom.

#### Present

Claire Gradone, President  
Heather Morin, Treasurer  
Ellen Snyder-Grenier, Secretary  
Sandra C. Melody  
Michaela Miteva

#### Absent

Virginia Clarendon  
Eileen Godin  
Jay Haun  
JoAnna Keeley, Advisor  
Andrea Shaw Reed, Select Board Liaison

#### Action step/s

- Claire will complete the notification process for Mass Cultural Council grants.
- Claire will contact Ginny Ogden to share the committee's thoughts about the March art show vis a vis COVID and learn who she should contact from other schools to see if an on-line show would be agreeable to teachers.
- Ellen will write a bullet-point list of what we would need to do a simple on-line exhibit and send it to Claire.

#### **1. December Minutes**

The council members approved the minutes of December 13, 2021 with no changes. The action steps from that, which were listed with the notes, have been addressed.

#### **2. Treasurer's Report**

Heather provided an update on 2021 Mass Cultural Council grants. She said that she had processed a more grants: one for the Outer Cape Chorale Concerts for \$500 and one for the Sixty Plus Senior Arts Program for \$300; she submitted those on 12/27/21. That leaves six more from 2021 that are outstanding. Among them is one for Open Mic Classical; Monika Woods is going to resend her information via email to Heather so that it can be processed as quickly as possible.

#### **3. Report from Chair**

**Report on 2022 grants denied:** Claire sent emails out to applicants who did not receive Mass Cultural Council grant funding (as decided at the December 2021 Orleans Cultural Council meeting) on the evening of December 13, 2021, directly after the meeting. One application, for Mary Wilson, did not have a letter from Snow Library indicating they were hosting her program, so the proposal had been placed in "denial pending." It then went out as a denial later than the others, which pushed back the date for sending out approval letters; they will go out 15 days from then, which will be the week of January 17<sup>th</sup>. Wilson ultimately provided a letter; her funding will come from the Warrant Fund.

**Report on grants approved 2022:** Recipients have been informed by email. Claire has prepared the official letters, which will go out next week. The deadline for all grant notifications is February 1, 2022.

**Discussion of possibility of Art Show at Town Hall in March of 2022:** Claire received a follow-up query from Ginny Ogden, the art teacher at the high school, as the schools need to start planning if this is to move forward. Claire then checked with Town Hall as to whether people would even be allowed in to see the show if it was mounted, given the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise of the Omnicron strain; the answer is not yet known.

Claire noted that we need to make a decision so that the art teachers will know what to do. Andrea had said to Claire that it possibly could be on-line, with students preparing a jpeg of their work to be shown on the town website. Discussion then followed on options. Heather suggested making it a drive-by how to keep the in-person aspect. Sandra noted that in 2020, it was all set up for in-person and it was called off at the last minute due to COVID. We discussed the difficulty of having the event in such a small space as Town Hall, given social distancing. Heather asked: what if we always have an online element; it would be a good record. If online, we would need to have images of all the works, information about them, and a public relations campaign, but perhaps the students could be involved. A benefit would be that the art would be available to a much wider audience and, as noted, would be a good record; it could also be a good way to get students involved, if teachers were amenable.

Claire will contact Ginny tomorrow and see who to contact from other schools to see if it would be agreeable to the teachers to have an on-line show instead of an in-person one. Ellen will write a bullet-point list of what we would need to do a simple on-line exhibit to see if they'd be willing to work on this with us.

#### **4. Duc d'Orleans Portrait Restoration Project**

Eileen was not able to attend, but Claire received a message from Eileen saying that she had no update yet on the restoration. Eileen is waiting for a final financial report so that she can finalize the donor plaque. Michaela noted that there had been no additional donors. However, there is a possibility of another donation to cover any uncovered costs, so we will wait.

#### **5. Cultural District Report**

Joanna was unable to attend due to a conflicting meeting.

#### **6. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 4:30 in the Skaket Room, Orleans Town Hall

#### **Closing**

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm. Notes submitted by: Ellen Snyder-Grenier, Secretary