

Asst.  
ORLEANS TOWN CLERK  
*[Signature]*  
'22 MAR 10 11:42AM



**ORLEANS CULTURAL COUNCIL**  
**Meeting on February 8, 2022**  
**Via Zoom**

*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 February 8, 2022**

**Opening**

The regular meeting of the Orleans Cultural Council was called to order at 4:30 PM on February 8, 2022, via Zoom.

**Present**

- Eileen Godin
- Claire Gradone, Chair
- Jay Haun
- Heather Morin, Treasurer
- JoAnna Keeley, Advisor
- Sandra C. Melody
- Ellen Snyder-Grenier, Secretary

**Absent**

- Virginia Clarendon
- Michaela Miteva
- Andrea Shaw Reed, Select Board Liaison

**Action step/s**

- JoAnna and Eileen will work on letters to donors to the painting project; JoAnna will continue to reach out to the conservator for an update.
- Claire will contact the school about writing a grant with an application attached and talk about preparation for the art show next year.
- We will put a note on our calendars to start planning for the 2023 art show in September 2022.
- Ellen will draft a press release about grants for Claire's review.
- Anyone with idea for new members will contact Claire.
- We will talk about the farmers' market at the next meeting.

## **1. January Minutes**

The council members approved the January minutes with no changes.

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

Heather did not have any updates; no grants have come in recently. She asked Claire to let her know if she needed any more information for the recent grant cycle and the Warrant Fund.

## **3. Report from Chair**

*Report on grants approved 2022:* approval letters were sent. Claire noted that she has not heard back from anyone (they went out one week ago). She spoke to JoAnna, who suggested putting something in the paper saying that grant award notices have been sent out. Claire will send Ellen information; Ellen will write a press release draft; after approving it, Claire will send it to Michaela. JoAnna will send past press releases to use as a guide.

*Discussion of Student Art Show March 2022 and possible donation to Nauset Art program:* Claire noted that the art show isn't happening this year, again, due to COVID. The school didn't have enough work because kids hadn't had enough time in school to produce material to display. Claire noted that we need to start planning for 2023 in September 2022. Also, she wondered if we could offer some financial assistance, or encourage them to write grants for next year. Eileen felt that grant writing seemed the best way to go, so that they can ask for something special for which they have a specific use. She suggested Claire tell them that we plan on reserving their spot, and in the meantime, in order to help them finance the project, we strongly suggest applying for a grant through the OCC.

JoAnna said that they had worked on a grant application form taken from the MCC report so individuals at any time could submit a grant, so perhaps a call to the art departments or principal would be good to see if they have a project they are working on now (art, environmental, cultural). Eileen: Attaching the application would help. Jay: it would be good to let them know that we are happy to help them write a grant. Claire likes the idea of attaching the application; it could be for not just art but music or environmental.

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

JoAnna has reached out to the conservator as to progress and is awaiting a response. Eileen noted that 1) she needs a letter acknowledging her donation for tax purposes; Jay needs a letter too; JoAnna will make sure both of them get letters; and 2) she is concerned that most of the money was collected about a year ago and the work is not done. She asked to find out from the conservator how much money we owe her (and if in case we're short to see if someone needs to make up the difference) and when it will be done so we can send out an acknowledgement to all donors that we are working on this, waiting for it to be done, etc. She wondered if some people, if they saw such an item, might contribute afterwards, which could be added later. Eileen: we don't need more donations after it's done; also the plaque is very reasonable. In the newspaper we noted that those who donated \$100 or more only would be

acknowledged. The plaque will be black with gold lettering and Eileen has it ready to go; she just will need to add a brief sentence to serve as an introduction to the names.

JoAnna noted that that given COVID delays, donors would likely understand the delay. As soon as Deborah responds, she will share the information. JoAnna agreed that an update note to donors would be good; she suggested that she and Eileen draft something. She also noted she is committed to making up the difference with what we have and what we need. Eileen offered to draft an email to send by JoAnna to make any tweaks and send out. The same stationery could be used (i.e. ,with the portrait on it) that was used to acknowledge donations.

*Other ideas related to art:* JoAnna also noted: in relation to something that is continuing, there are paintings that belong to the historical society, and if we ever collaborated with them perhaps money could be used for one of their projects (for example, the windmill painting is huge, and is of the original windmill in Orleans).

*Scholarship idea:* Heather: have we ever thought about scholarships? Claire: if we had money we felt we could give to a deserving student for their secondary education, we could possibly do that. Eileen: having worked with scholarships for schools, she noted that their applications are all done by April, so it would have to be a next-year item. It would be good to have the OCC's name on it. Heather noted it would be good to talk about at an upcoming meeting.

*Additional members needed:* Claire noted that we need another member; she thought about asking someone who had received funding, or perhaps a teacher. She would like to make more community connections. She asked the group to let her know of any suggestions.

*Something for next year:* Claire mentioned that there are festivals we might support in some fashion; also, the proposed exhibit at the historical society about food might be a good community project. Let's put it on our discussion list for the March meeting, and think about it in the interim.

## **5. Cultural District Report**

*Farmers' market collaboration:* JoAnna noted that she's worked with the farmer's market; they are looking at offering a series of classes on nutrition; making a garden; having a healthy diet. They are interested in education regarding foods. It might be interesting to approach them. Claire: how are those classes advertised? JoAnna: she noted that the Orleans Facebook page has 6,000 people and the farmers' market has 3,000; also there's a what-to-do list in the papers to get information on. They've also talked about evening art classes for students, and there are people willing to offer perhaps a 3-week series. Gretl Norgeot is chair.

*Parish Park events:* They have full funding for the music at Parish Park starting April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and are having conversations with the Academy which is starting classes; they would be a great organization to get involved with by the OCC. They have a full plan of shows going on. JoAnna said they'd invited them to do some improv theater following the music. They are proposing that whatever play is playing, people from the Academy would do a segment of it in Parish Park.

This is all about helping to make art part of life. Also, they are doing economic development with brochures listing all the things to do in Orleans and received full funding for that as well. There is always need of help; perhaps there could be something in the newspaper saying that cultural committees need volunteers? Claire: what kind of help is needed at Parish Park? JoAnna: sometimes it is as simple as you volunteer to count how many people have come. That helps to document the attendance for the cultural council.

## **6. Closing Remarks**

*Claire summarized next steps:* JoAnna and Eileen will work on letters to donors; Claire will contact the school about writing a grant with the application attached and talk about preparation for the art show next year in that letter. We will talk about farmers' market next time. Jay noted that at Wellfleet they had a list on cards at Town Hall of all the farmers' markets on the Cape. JoAnna will check with Gretl to see if she has it.

## **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at Orleans Town Hall, Zoom, or hybrid (tbd)