

Acton Boxborough Cultural Council meeting minutes 22 October 2012

Present: Barbara Estabrook, Greg Hutchins, Marion Powers, Tse-Ming Wang, Todd Davis, Sunanda Sahay, Linda Mayer, Pascale Belin-White, and Suman Adishesu

Absent: Nancy Kumaraswami, Kristie Rampton

Public: Selectman Janet Adachi; later Michael Klinger

Meeting called to order at 7:40.

1. There was no public comment.
2. September meeting minutes accepted.
3. Greg gave Treasurer's Report - Colonial Minstrels have not claimed their grant.
4. Grants are all scanned. Marion read and will email access instructions. FY 12 and 11 are still in folder, so be sure to access FY 13 grants. These can be downloaded for easier accessibility. 44 grants total; 5 with no venue. Hard copy of spreadsheet with all applicants and individual support materials distributed to all members. Barbara explained the process for the benefit of new members. Consideration made of ratings sheets. Barbara wants group to choose one for everyone to use. Pascale thinks ABCC form is good, but highlighted useful ideas on other forms. Marion liked points being assigned to each category. Barbara uses sheet without numbers, so would rather it not be a requirement; it's optional. Criteria from other sheets added to ABCC form. Entire ABCC score sheet read aloud; changes made. Greg will add wording and send it out.

Review reasons for reject applicants; read aloud; Barbara will email to committee members. Kristie will miss November meeting, so will present in December. Buddies for new members selected.

Conflict of interest forms distributed and filled in.

5. Octoberfest: Kristie made standup display. Pascale's dress sculpture attracted attention from people. Few surveys filled in. SurveyMonkey link posted. In future do arts activity to attract more interest, but what level of effort should we put in? Considering our goal of visibility, signage could be more colorful, banner is maybe not eye-catching enough; could make a new one; develop our own logo to be used with MCC logo. Revisit this after grant cycle.
6. Pascale showed sign for "Hollyhock" sculpture. Marion will help her install the sign. Acton Arboretum not a good place to put an Acton sculpture due to

vandalism. Barbara and Linda waiting to hear about walk through NARA Park to consider locations there.

7. Michael Klinger came to discuss Acton's sister city where people suffer from poverty and a hard life. He has raised funds to build wells and bathrooms and has sent books.

- Council member ideas:
 - Provide production support for theatricals
 - Involve school art teachers with art projects
 - Include French teachers
 - Could be music or dance rather than art

Michael said sister city people went to schools last year and are now pen pals.

- Sell crafts by piggybacking on other events e.g. Oktoberfest or local shops such as Gallery Seven, 7 Nason St, Maynard; international festivals such as at Conant, Douglas Schools; add page on ABCC website; Conant School Craft Fair; Boxborough agricultural fair

Michael said that types of crafts are jewelry, leather sandals, batik pictures.

- Fundraising concert with African music and sell crafts and raffle artwork
- Michael could create a project using high school students then apply for grant

Conclusion: support a collaborative effort

8. Survey – prizes given at end of month; Barbara will resend link
9. Acton Chinese Music Night is looking for help with publicity; Barbara placed event on LCC listserve, email list, and ABCC site.
10. Our World International Film Series / Short Night - discussion tabled
11. John Adams film - discussion tabled