

ACTON BOXBOROUGH CULTURAL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 29, 2023
7:30 PM, VIRTUAL MEETING

PRESENT: Jin Yang, Nancy Savage, Mary Hurley, Maria Paunescu,
Chelsea Reinhold, Ben Davies

ABSENT: Brijesh Singh, Eddy Zhao, Hongbing Tang

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Alissa Nicol, Acton Select Board liaison

Opening: Chair Jin Yang opened the meeting at 7:32pm

I. Regular Business

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments at this time.
2. **Minutes from the May 23, 2023 meeting:** Ms. Yang motioned to approve. Ms. Savage seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Singh was not present to give the Treasurer's Report.
4. **Film Advisory Group:** Ms. Yang stated that the Group's next meeting will be in late September. There was no other update.

II. New/Special Business

1. **Survey Results on Council Priorities:** The survey data of 63 respondents was collected, compiled and presented in chart form by Mr. Davies. Ms. Yang spoke for all of the Council members in thanking Mr. Davies for all the work he had done. The Public Concerts and Cultural Festivals category was the highest ranking category of programs the respondents wished to see going forward. The entire survey was discussed, with there being emphasis on ways for people in the community to find out about events the ABCC has sponsored. Mr. Davies felt the biggest message of the survey was the need to better advertise those events. Suggestions included use of social media, flyers in libraries, Action Unlimited. It was also discussed how to find out the attendance at the sponsored events.
2. **Finalize Council Priorities: due 8/31/23 to the MCC.** The priorities the ABCC has in place were reviewed, with some changes made in the areas of Covid-19, number of people served and emphasis on advertising by the applicant. Transportation cost issues will be dealt with on a case by case basis. Ms. Yang motioned to approve the changes. Ms. Hurley seconded. The motion to make the changes was approved unanimously. (Mr. Davies leaves meeting at 8:23pm)
3. **Grant Reception: Lessons Learned:** It was decided that the NARA Park location is a good one, and there should possibly be a back-up location next year in case of inclement weather. Ms. Nicol stated that she enjoyed the reception, especially the performances given, and hearing the grant recipients speak. Ms. Yang stated that there was a mishap with not all of the recipients picking up their certificates at the beginning of the reception. One person did not and left early. It was suggested by Ms. Yang that next year, early in the reception, that all recipients

who hadn't collected their certificates at the Greeting Table, should go do so at that point. It was also suggested that a group photo of everyone in attendance be taken.

4. **Grant Cycle 2023-2024** : Applications to the **MCC** will begin on 9/1/23 and must be received by 10/17/23. Financial Report (Sections 1 and 2) due 10/17/23. Ms. Nicol suggested putting the application information on News Flash and the Action Unlimited. Ms. Nicol will help to post.

5. Other:

- a. Cultural District: Ms. Yang, Ms. Nicol and Acton resident Franny Osman and several others were invited by Representative Simon Cataldo to see the Cultural District of West Concord Junction, with its art space, murals and other points of interest. Ms. Yang and Ms. Nicol are working together to meet with Town of Acton leaders to form a similar District in Acton. A date will be set for the Select Board and others to meet.
 - b. Fifer's Day: Mr. Davies and Ms. Yang will be present to represent ABCC.
6. Next meeting: October 3, 2023.

III . Consent Items:

None.

Ms. Yang motioned to adjourn meeting at 9:00pm. Ms. Hurley seconded.
Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by
Nancy Savage, ABCC Secretary.