

ACTON BOXBOROUGH CULTURAL COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2023
Zoom meeting

PRESENT: Jin Yang, Mary Hurley, Chelsea Reinhold, Brijesh Singh, Ben Davies, Nancy Savage
ABSENT: Hongbing Tang, Eddy Zhao, Maria Paunescu
PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Sunitha Paravasthu, Shannon Daoust

Ms. Yang opened the meeting at 7:46pm.

I. Regular business

1. Public comments: Ms. Paravasthu introduced herself as observing on behalf of the Boxborough News. Ms. Daoust introduced herself as a resident of Boxborough and observer of the meeting.
2. Minutes of 10/3/23 meeting: reviewed and motion to approve by Mr. Davies and seconded by Ms. Yang. Motion to approve minutes passed unanimously. Minutes of 11/7/23 to be reviewed at the 11/28/23 meeting, along with those of 11/14/23.

II. New/Special Business

1. Grant Cycle 2023-2024
Review of grant applications:
 - a. NS raised grant FY24-LCC-58931 and FY24-LCC-58974 (Japanese Folktales and Origami) submitted by same person for two different dates. NS will contact the applicant to ask if she would rather receive half possibly for both shows, or possibly fully fund one show.
 - b. NS raised grant FY24-LCC-59345 (Musical Baseball Show). NS motioned to approve the application for full funding of \$375. BD seconded. Motion to approve passed unanimously.
 - c. BD raised grant FY24-LCC-68322 (Hongbing Tang watercolor class). BD will ask HT if she would prefer half the funds for both days, or funds for one only, if funds are to be granted. JY will also ask people in the Chinese Community if they will be willing to donate.
 - d. BD raised grant FY24-LCC-59205 (Our World Film series of the ABCC). JY and MH recused themselves and left the zoom meeting. Asking for \$500 of a \$1300 budget. It was discussed whether ABCC's administrative account (which has a balance of \$800) could be used toward this application. It was decided that \$200 would be taken from ABCC's account, and award \$200 from grant funding, for a total of a \$400 grant. BD motioned for this to be approved, NS seconded, motion passed unanimously.

- e. BS raised grant FY24-LCC-62819 (Music at AB Farmer's market). It was determined that BS will obtain a support letter. JY motioned to approve \$300, MH seconded, and motion passed unanimously.
- f. NS raised grant FY24-LCC-68064 (New Moon, Boston International Asian Music Festival). JY recused herself. Last year's grant was discussed in terms of dollars awarded (\$3,235). Since the budgeted amount of people served is 1500, NS will pursue if this number of attendees applies to the Acton performance only and also ask about how many attended at the last event. To be discussed at another meeting. BD leaves meeting.
- g. BS raised grant FY24-LCC-63729 (Cannabis growing workshop). Asking \$500. To be discussed again after BS speaks with applicant about getting a support letter from the Library in Acton.

Note: Public attendee Sunitha Paravasthu leaves meeting. No questions; told that final letters won't go out until mid-January, after denial letters go out and ABCC waits for any appeals.

- h. JY raised grants numbered FY24-LCC-56382 and 56384. JY motioned to approve \$250 for each. MH seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- i. JY raised grant FY24-LCC-68837. Event to be held at Acton Library. BS motioned to grant \$500. JY seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- j. CR raised grant FY24-LCC-60327. (Acton Chinese school graduation festivities). Asking \$1000. Budget is \$2000. CR motioned to grant \$600. NS seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- k. CR raised grant FY24-LCC-65611 (crochet around trees in Acton). It was decided that applicant needs to get a letter of support and needs a confirmed location to do the tree knitting project. CR will reach out to applicant for details which will be needed to proceed.
- l. MH raised FY24-LCC-61363 (Scott Maloney "I AM" program). States it would be held at library or high school. MH will contact applicant for more information as to location, date, and getting a letter of support.
- m. MH raised grant FY24-LCC-62364 (Francis...?) Doing program two days. Does have support letters, but MH will contact applicant to see if s/he would rather a possible full funding of one day, or possible half funding of two days. Location to be Acton Memorial Library and the Boxborough Community Center.

Mr. Singh had to leave meeting, as well as Ms. Reinhold and Ms. Hurley. Therefore, motion was made to end meeting. Further agenda items to be discussed at November 28, 2024 meeting.

Meeting ended at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Savage, Secretary, ABCC