

## New Marlborough Cultural Council Meeting 2/8/24

A meeting of the New Marlborough Cultural Council was called to order at the New Marlborough Public Library at 5:04 pm. Present was Co-Chair Wendy Miller, and members Klea Simakis, Sherri Gorelick, Lauri Aibel, Shaun Kelleher, Didi Sinclair, and Jane Maser. Co-Chair Louise Yohalem called in for part of the meeting.

Minutes from January were accepted.

No Treasurer's report this month but Eugene Cleary sent message to Wendy that we have received \$3,180.00 from the Fall Mailer fund raiser.

A discussion followed regarding what options the NMCC with monies that has raised, not including the funds from Mass Cultural that go directly to the Grant recipients and minor amount kept for expenses. The topic for discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Jane Maser reported that the packets for the 29 Grant recipients have been mailed and we are now waiting to receive proper forms back to have the awards-checks sent. We are awarding 16,157.00 in total. 11 applicants were denied.

There was a discussion of who can check the NMCC's email and who is updating the NMCC webpage on the Town's website. We do not have the password for the email and cannot access it at this point.

Didi has agreed to chair the NMCC Potluck dinner set for Sat. April 6<sup>th</sup> at the Meeting house.

Time to be determined. Wendy provided a checklist for the event. Typically, there are 80 attendees and options of what to bring include appetizers, main dishes, and desserts divided by alphabetical order. Didi offered to contact the fiddler that played at Burritt Day and will organize the event and delegate tasks to members: messaging Maggie's list and 5 Village/News, posters, Lauri to provide a coffee urn so far.

It was agreed that the Spring Fund Raiser – request for donation letter will be sent out in April.

Wendy works hard to make sure that people that have donated do not receive another request in the next campaign.

We need to recruit new members to the NMCC as many members terms will be up at the end of the year. Discussed having an information table at the Potluck Dinner.

Burritt Day is Sat. August 17<sup>th</sup>. Discussed potential award recipients – Deborah the Librarian?

Smitty Pignatelli is retiring, and the council feels he should receive recognition as well.

Regarding the entertainment, Didi has a magician to contact. Lauri mentioned having more activities for kids such as arts and crafts table. Klea offered that her husband may be able to make a CAD schematic for the vendors spacing. One of the benefits would be that it would make it easier to divide the spaces and allow them to be picked prior to the event to eliminate the need to arrive so early to claim a spot. Jane to organize the White Elephant Sale.

Wendy submitted the Budget for NMCC to the Town requesting \$2500. Usually, we receive \$1500. The Fall Fundraiser cost \$1500 plus \$62 from the NMCC's account.

New Business- Lauri provided a wonderful Press Release for the Grant Awards.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Maser