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ORLEANS TOWN CLERK



**ORLEANS CULTURAL COUNCIL**

**Notes: Meeting of August 8, 2023**

**Orleans Town Hall, Orleans, Massachusetts**

*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.*

**Present**

- Claire Gradone, President
- Jay Haun
- Sandra C. Melody
- JoAnna Keeley, Advisor
- Andrea Shaw Reed, Select Board Liaison (via Zoom)

**Guests**

- Michael Herman
- Kim Newman

**Absent**

- Virginia Clarendon
- Michaela Miteva
- Heather Morin, Treasurer

**MEETING NOTES**

**Opening**

Claire Gradone welcomed and explained some of the activities of the OCC for the new town manager, Kim Newman, who came with Michael Herman, chair of Orleans' select board to meet everyone and learn more about OCC activities. She then called the regular meeting of the Orleans Cultural Council to order at 4:40 p.m.

**1. June 13, 2023 Minutes**

The minutes were approved.

**2. Treasurer's Report**

In Heather's absence, Claire handed out the latest 2022-2023 Grant Cycle Worksheet which had been compiled by Heather in advance of the meeting. That report shows that three had been submitted, and that \$5,400 was outstanding still. Claire noted that grants from Pitter Patter Puppets and the Council on Aging had come in after the report was compiled.

### **3. Report from Chair: Claire Gradone**

#### **Grantee recognition**

Claire contacted grantees about including MCC and Orleans Cultural Council in advertising their programs. It is a requirement by the MCC. She said it was noted in the Council on Aging newsletter; Ellen said she'd been to a talk at Pleasant Bay Community Boating and that the OCC had been recognized.

#### **Discussion of RFI submissions for beach receptacle artwork for Celebrate Our Waters and further action**

Claire noted that the RFI has been advertised three times and we haven't received any responses. JoAnna noted that for a sculpture at Brewster Crossing, there was a great deal of publicity and yet they only received three official submissions, and that was for \$30,000 to spend.

We then discussed other options for collaborating with Celebrate Our Waters: Diane Fromme paints rocks, might be an option; also ceramic pieces done by grantee. Ellen suggested that we might want to talk with teachers to see if there is a project that could get kids involved. JoAnna mentioned possibly doing a pollinator garden by Parish Park. Claire will contact the Pond Coalition and tell them what our plight is; she will say that the OCC is happy to help with an activity at the art tent; then we will look at other options for the future.

#### **Discussion of September committee reorganization**

Claire asked that members consider other roles they might have; who might like to take on the head of the council, for example. She noted that she and Heather are ending their second three-year term soon. She noted that she had talked to Andrea recently; there might be someone interested in coming on board. JoAnna noted that if Heather is willing, perhaps there might be a way to keep her on as treasurer, as she has such a wonderful job in that role; that would have to be explored. Claire also noted the grants open up September 1<sup>st</sup>. There have been updates, e.g. no grants less than \$250; she will be taking some courses to learn about other updates.

### **4. Cultural District Report: JoAnna Kelley, OCD Chair**

JoAnna talked about their work. They are having a pop-up art exhibit at the Old Firehouse. They have funding through an MCC grant for September through November for pop-up concerts. Average attendance for 13 Saturdays was 65 people. All are local musicians. The first Sunday in July they had an open rehearsal for the Academy Playhouse's production; the 25-member cast participated. Long-range, they're looking at increasing art classes for the public, both for students and for adults. She also brought a poster mounted on foamcore of paintings of sites throughout Orleans to put in the entryway at Town Hall; Ellen will make a label inviting people to guess what the sites are (JoAnna provided a key to use). They are doing a video for the website of public art in Orleans.

### **5. Old/New Business**

There was no old or new business.

### **6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

### **7. Next Meeting**

**Next meeting: Tuesday, September 12 at 4:30 pm Orleans Town Hall**

Notes taken by Ellen Snyder-Grenier, Secretary