

Newbury Cultural Council Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2023 at 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. ET

Council Members Present:

Amy Thurlow, Co-Chair/Treasurer
Jeanne Anderson, Co-Secretary
Margaret Russell
Robin Lawson
Bart Bracken, Co-Treasurer
Marguerite "Minnie" Flanagan

Council Members Absent:

Michelle Ouellette, Co-Chair/Secretary
Lloyd Hamovit

Call to order: 6:00 p.m. Without a quorum of five members present at 5:30 p.m., the meeting was delayed for 30 minutes until a quorum of members had assembled.

Approval of 12-12-22 meeting minutes: Voted to approve.

- **Grant modifications**

"To review an extension or other modification to an approved grant, a subcommittee of a minimum of two members can review and approve the request. The joint decision should be documented and later reported to the full council at the next meeting."
(MCC Local Cultural Council Guidelines modified August 2022 p. 14)

Based on the guidelines above, four council members met as a sub-committee at 5:30 p.m. on 3/20/2023 to review the grant modifications requested below. Their decisions were reported back to the council once the 3/20/2023 meeting was convened with a quorum of members.

- Request to change address for Bluebird Café to the Byfield Community Arts Center. Sub-committee voted unanimously to approve.
- Request for PlumFest to switch date to 2023 for their F23 grant application. Sub-committee voted unanimously to approve.
- Don Campbell Band Salutes Veterans. Request to switch date from 5/26/2023 to 5/27/2023 for their performance. Sub-committee voted unanimously to approve.

- **Treasurer Update:** Amy had no news to report to the council.

- **Term limits and officer positions to be filled:**

Council co-chairs, Michelle and Amy have terms expiring in June 2023. Both Amy and Michelle have offered to help train new officers. MCC guidelines require that LCC officers be elected annually. The following officers were unanimously elected for terms beginning on July 1, 2023.

President - Robin Lawson

Treasurer - Bart Bracken

Secretary - Jeanne Anderson (until her term ends in February 2024)

Michelle will update the officer slate on the Newbury Cultural Council website at the end of June 2023. New council members are needed. Robin will be meeting with a potential candidate later this spring.

- **Newbury Town Day** is scheduled for Saturday, August 26th, 2023 with most activities to be based at Spencer Peirce Little Farm. Robin Lawson, Newbury Town Day co-chair, reviewed the recent March 4, 2023 core team meeting. Future meetings at the Byfield Community Arts Center (including a May 6 brainstorming session) will be monthly, open to all and posted on the town calendar. NCC members will be sent the minutes from these meetings. Robin Lawson will announce the date of the brainstorming event at Town Meeting on April 25, 2023. Funding requests, including an upcoming request to the Town of Newbury, will emphasize broader promotion, including banners across key roads and on the Upper Green backstop, yard signs, and signage and giveaways such as refrigerator magnets. Heidi Fram will coordinate the arts aspects of the day. Food vendors (ice cream only) will be sought. The core team does not want to compete with the fund-raising efforts of the Newbury Food Pantry on that day. Plenty of T-shirts, tote bags, and cookbooks to be sold at the event (and before as appropriate) are already in hand. A working list of activities, times, locations, and point person has been drafted.

- **Additional business:**

MCC guidelines require LCC's to conduct an annual survey to gather feedback from their local residents. The Newbury Cultural Council voted to approve the intent to complete the NCC annual survey on an on-going basis at Newbury Town Day (including sites in Old Town [Spencer Peirce Little Farm] and Byfield [Byfield Community Arts Center]) as well as at Plum Fest (Plum Island). The survey provided to residents should include a list of the past year's events in order to help promote the range of grant awards sponsored by the NCC. Bart will continue to compile the results for the council.

- **Upcoming meetings:** Monday, June 12th; Monday, September 11th and Monday, November 13th at 5:30 p.m. Newbury Town Hall

Adjourn – 6:30 p.m. ET

Reminder of Next Meeting:

Monday, June 12, 2023 p.m. 5:30 ET –
Newbury Town Hall, 12 Kent Way, second floor meeting room