

Mendon Cultural Council

Minutes

March 24, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. The regular meeting of the Mendon Cultural Council was called to order at 7:03 PM at the Town Hall.

B. Members present: Marcy Singer-Chair, Joyce Firth-Secretary, Kim Park- Treasurer, Cynthia Donatelli, Monika Schmid, Kathleen Murphy, Debbie Perro

II. MINUTES ACCEPTED

A. Minutes of the February meeting were accepted as written.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. The Treasurer, Kim Parks, reported a bank balance of \$5571.07.

B. There has been no new bank activity since the last report.

IV. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

A. Cynthia Donatelli and Joyce Firth are planning on making brief presentations at faculty meetings on April 7th at 8:00AM at Clough School, and April 2nd at 3:00PM at Miscoe School.

B. These presentations are to inform and encourage the faculty and/or staff to take advantage of the Cultural Council grant process.

C. Requests have been made to put the LCC on the faculty meeting agendas for those dates. We are waiting for a response to that request.

V. REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST VOTE

A. The Blackstone Valley Heritage Foundation submitted a request for reimbursement of \$500 well after the closing date for reimbursements and after routine mailings and emails had been sent reminding them of the closing date on December 31, 2014.

B. The funds remain encumbered in the Council's bank account.

C. A vote was taken as to whether the Council should reimburse the BVHF at this late date.

1. Vote was taken: 4 in favor of reimbursement, 3 against reimbursement.

2. Reimbursement will be made in the amount of \$500 to BVHF.

VI. GUIDELINES FOR 2017 GRANT CYCLE: HISTORICAL PLAQUE REQUEST

A. The Mendon Historical Society inquired as to whether the Council was able to fund historical house/building plaques for the Mendon 350 year Anniversary year celebration.

B. After some research, the Chair has reported that the purchase of house plaques would be considered a Capitol Expenses, and therefore not allowed under the Massachusetts Cultural Council's guidelines.

C. A letter has been sent to the Mendon Historical Society to that effect.

D. In addition, the Local Council has been reminded that prioritizing the anniversary celebration in our funding decisions for 2017 needs to be publicized, and the Council should be exploring a community input process in order to address concerns regarding this decision.

1. The Council will plan to form a survey committee in/or about November 2015 to explore initiating a survey, and looking to have results in 2016.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. At least one Council member continues to attend the Mendon 350 Anniversary planning committee.

1. Planning is still in its earliest stages with no real direction at this time.

B. The Council will continue to monitor the process to see what roll, if any, we might play in the event(s).

VIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Mendon Cultural Council is set for **May 5, 2015**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Firth, Secretary