

Sheffield Cultural Council Meeting
Monday September 28, 2021
Zoom meeting

Present: Marcia Brolli, Gillian Hettinger, Brece Honeycutt, Tod Mackenzie, Paul O'Brien, Amy Rudnick, Hilary Russell, Bonnie Silvers, and Hester Velmans.

The Council convened at 4:00

- We welcomed new members Tod Mackenzie and Bonnie Silvers, and all of us introduced ourselves.
- The Council elected the following officers for the 2021-'22 year: Amy Rudnick, Chair; Paul O'Brien, Treasurer; Hilary Russell, Secretary.
- The minutes from our March 25th meeting were approved.
- The Council approved the Sheffield Fair's request, in light of the last two years' Covid-19 related cancellations, to disburse to performers their '20 -'21 nine hundred dollar grant, which was itself rolled over from the Fair's original '19-'20 grant.
- Unable to produce "A Free Woman: The Amazing Mum Bet," the Sheffield Historical Society would like use their \$250 grant toward a winter holiday choral concert. The Council approved this request. Historical Soc. member Paul O'Brien, recused himself from the vote.
- The Council also approved rollovers, if needed, for the following recipients who have not yet used their grant:

Mass Audubon ("Bringing Nature to You")	\$300
IS183 ("Artcentric" at Undermountain Elementary Sch.)	200
Dewey Memorial Hall ("Dewey Presents")	350
- Amy will ask for final reports from grantees who have not yet sent us theirs.
- Reminder: each of us should create our own password to enter Sheffield "page" on the Mass Cultural Council's website.
- Amy reminded us of these important times:
 - ✓ grant application period – Sept.- Oct.15
 - ✓ grant reading and accessing – Oct. 16 - Dec.
 - ✓ denial letters are sent by Dec. 30
 - our annual report due Jan. 18
 - ✓ grant approval letters are sent after Jan. 18

Finances: The CC has received \$5,000 from the Mass CC, and we have \$2,810 of our own funds for a total of \$7,810 to award this year for the \$2021 cycle.

- ✓ Bonnie reminded us of the Town's income from cannabis taxes, a share of which we may be able to fund grants.
- ✓ Tod brought up asking the Town for financial assistance.
- ✓ The Town is asking for input on how to spend the American Rescue Plan monies that the Town will receive. Paul suggested that we ask the town to match the \$5,000 from the Mass CC. Amy to make the request to the Town.
- ✓ Amy will check if to see other towns provide support to their CC.
- ✓ Gillian reported that she made flyers advertising the grant application guidelines and would email the flyer it to the members.
- ✓ Hilary added that he had distributed Gillian's flyers at the Farmers' Market, to both town post offices, and to local businesses. He also had checked with Dewey Presents, which is in the process of writing applications.
- ✓ Bonnie said that she will have the flier, or its essential contents put on Nextdoor Sheffield.
- ✓ Tod will distribute some in Ashley Falls.

The council adjourned at 5:20.

Respectfully submitted, Hilary Russell