

## Sheffield Cultural Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at Sheffield Town Hall

Present: Kathie Ness, Wendy Casey, Hilary Russell, Amy Rudnick, Paul O'Brien, Bob Law, Marcia Brolli

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

The minutes of the January 9, 2018, meeting were approved as read.

Amy reported on the cost of doing a fundraising mailing to all property owners (approximately 1500 residents of Sheffield/Ashley Falls; there is no list of renters). The figures below come from Kwik Print.

Printing letter, envelope, and donation return envelope	\$770
Folding/inserting/sealing/addressing	\$300

Postage: approximately \$735 first class. (We need to research the possibilities of bulk mail, as well as the possibility of the Town handling the mailing, which might be at a reduced postage rate.)

It is hoped that the Town will provide us with printed labels.

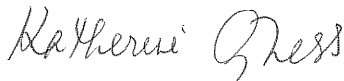
It was agreed that the Council, possibly with the help of Berkshire School students, possibly with the help of other volunteers, could do the folding/inserting/etc., saving \$300. This would enable members (and nonmember volunteers) to write personal notes on many of the letters.

It was agreed that the Council will request to speak at an upcoming selectmen's meeting, to explain the grant-selecting process and the limits imposed by the MCC allocation. The Council will ask the selectmen to provide the seed money for the first fundraising letter, inasmuch as MCC provides no such support.

The next step would be to approach the various businesses in town to be corporate sponsors of the Council (and/or of a particular event). An informal discussion brought up the names of almost twenty such businesses.

The fundraising letter will be mailed at the end of May. (Wendy has already provided a draft of that letter for the Council to review at a future meeting.)

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine Ness, chair