

Meeting Minutes
Weston Cultural Council
Online via Zoom
September 22, 2021 at 7 p.m.

WCC Members Present Online: Paul Angiolillo, Christine Martin, Jacob Sagrans, Sonali Tambe.

1. Call to order.

Co-Chair Sonali Tambe called the online meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and recorded the proceedings. She read the Town policy for online remote meetings which provides protocol for setting up meetings and guidelines from a legal compliance perspective.

2. Resident comments.

There were no online resident comments.

3. Assigning secretary

Chris Martin was the secretary for the meeting.

4. Review and approve the minutes from August 2021

The minutes from August 25, 2021 were duly reviewed and approved. They will be submitted to Town Hall and posted in the Council's Google document folder.

5. Treasurer's report

Chris reported that Tom continues to receive and process reimbursement requests for projects that have been completed from both FY2020 and 2021. He met with Susan Kelley, Weston's finance director and town accountant, the week before the meeting to review the reimbursement status of outstanding grants. Most of the remaining 2020 funds are in the process of being reimbursed. Reminders will go out to those who need to complete their 2020 reimbursement request now that the September 1 deadline has passed.

6. Update on 2021 grants

There are a number of 2021 grants that have been completed and reimbursed and others whose status is still up in the air. Members should keep in contact with their assigned applicants, and remind them to always acknowledge WCC support.

7. Outreach for 2022 applications

Paul reported that he sent out the announcement of the 2022 grant cycle to the media and potential applicants from his list of 170 contacts, and posted the information on our Facebook page. Applications can be submitted from the beginning of September through October 15. The council will divide up the applications at the October meeting in order to review them and contact applicants with any outstanding questions. We will review the applications in late November/early December and send out denial letters. In January, the approved applicants will

be notified.

8. Evaluating grants

Paul suggested tracking completed grants by adding a column on the working spreadsheet where comments regarding quality, publicity, attendance, responsiveness of grantees, etc. can be tracked for future reference. Chris will do that and send around the spreadsheet.

9. Planning for community survey to set Council priorities in 2022

Chris reminded members of the upcoming community input survey that will need to be conducted next spring. She noted that the grants we received in 2021 fulfilled many of the priorities in the last survey, so the questions on the 2019 survey may still be relevant. Paul suggested deleting questions regarding preferred time and season, since the hosting venue often determines the best schedule for the events. Chris will share the 2019 survey questions so members can review them.

10. New business

There was no new business.

11. Next meeting date and adjournment: The next meeting will be held Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in person or online, depending on Covid 19 restrictions. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.