

Franklin Cultural Council
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, February 2nd 2023; 7:30-9:00PM
VIRTUAL - Held on ZOOM

ATTENDEES

- Sarah Cronin, Brianna Cummings, Lauren Sanford, Pushpa Jangreddi, Swati Rao

VOTING ON MINUTES

- **January** meeting minutes were voted on
All Board members voted “yea” to approve the minutes

GRANT EXTENSION DISCUSSION

- The Council discussed a request received for a grant extension by the Franklin Girl Scouts. The decision was made unanimously to allow for an extension through May 31st, 2023.
- In general, the Council agreed that grant extensions would be allowed on a one-time basis, and additional conversation would occur should there be multiple requests from the same applicant.

ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST TRAINING

- Brianna Cummings shared updates about completing Ethics and Conflict of Interest training/acknowledgements with the group, to be completed.

METROWEST ARTS AND CULTURE SYMPOSIUM UPDATES

- Brianna Cummings represented the FCC in the most recent virtual discussion with members of the Franklin Cultural District, who will be taking the lead on this year's symposium.
 - Based on the availability of the Cultural District members, and their vision for the event, it will be held on **Thursday, March 30th** from 6:30-9pm at Dean College.
 - The theme of the symposium will be a panel discussion about the way that support of the arts helps to bolster the local economy.
 - The panel will be moderated by Kaye Kelly, with Michael Bobbitt giving the keynote address. Panelists are still being finalized, but 2 are currently confirmed:
 - Chancellor Augustus (Dean College)
 - Erin Lynch (Metrowest Visitor's Bureau)
 - Lisa Simmons (MCC - waiting to confirm)
- The FCC will contribute to this year's symposium mainly through the following:
 - Financial support - the FCC will be contributing money in order to hold the event
 - Advertising - via Facebook, local blogs and newspapers, and sharing the event with the MCC and other local Cultural Councils
 - Marketing materials are being finalized with Allegra printing, and should be ready in early February

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- There will be no cost of attendance for this year's Symposium, but donations will be accepted both before and during the event
 - Registration will still occur online, there will just not be an associated cost per ticket.
- Next steps for planning the symposium include discussion of questions to be asked by the moderator to each of the panelists, and finalizing a run of show for the event.

BUDGET UPDATES

- The FCC Q2 budget has been reconciled with the Town Treasurer - expenses and income match through the end of the 2022 calendar year
- The \$15,000 allotment from the Town of Franklin has been received, and factored into the budget, as well as the \$17,400 allotment from the MCC.
- The FCC received an appropriation from the state of MA to go against the 2022 Festival.
- Roughly **\$9,000** will remain in the FCC budget, after all expenses for the year have been accounted for.
 - Expenses for the symposium are less than expected, because there is no cost for the space. Costs for the event will be catering (light refreshments) and marketing materials from Allegra.

UPCOMING MEETING

- Members of the Franklin Cultural Council will meet again on February 14th, 2023.

ADJOURN.